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1938



1938

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Public Health Department

For Year 1938.

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JAMES GRANT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Glasgow)  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

R. W. WILKINSON, *Chief Sanitary Inspector.*



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Gateshead :  
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—  
1939.





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## CONSTITUTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES.

### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

As on 31st December, 1938.

Chairman : Alderman P. S. Hancock.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. A. Hall.

The Mayor (ex-officio).

Coun. T. Foster.

Ald. W. F. Barron.

„ Mrs. Heppell.

„ Mrs. Gunn.

„ K. W. Hughes.

„ N. McCretton.

„ J. A. Hutchinson.

„ W. Tait.

„ J. S. Magnay.

„ J. White.

„ G. Neilson.

Coun. G. Bennet.

„ J. H. Ritson.

„ Mrs. Bone.

„ G. Robertson.

„ C. T. Crankshaw.

„ W. Stoker.

„ Miss R. Dodds.

„ W. R. Tulip.

„ G. C. Esther.

„ S. G. B. Tyrrell.

„ Mrs. Forster.

„ N. Yeaman.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor Mrs. A. Hall.

Ald. P. S. Hancock.

Coun. Miss R. Dodds.

„ W. F. Barron.

„ T. Foster.

„ Mrs. Gunn.

„ Mrs. Heppell.

Coun. Mrs. Bone.

„ J. S. Magnay.

Coun. G. Robertson.

#### Co-opted Members :—

Mrs. M. S. Cheeseright.

Mrs. Morris.

Mrs. H. Gray.

Mrs. Parker.

Mrs. I. Snowdon.

### HOSPITALS SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Alderman P. S. Hancock.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. A. Hall.

Ald. W. F. Barron.

Coun. Miss R. Dodds.

„ Mrs. Gunn.

„ T. Foster.

„ N. McCretton

„ Mrs. Heppell.

„ W. Tait.

„ J. S. Magnay.

„ J. White.

„ G. Robertson.

Coun. Mrs. Bone.

„ W. R. Tulip.

Coun. N. Yeaman.

### BLIND WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Alderman P. S. Hancock.

Coun. Mrs. A. Hall

Coun. C. T. Crankshaw.

Ald. W. F. Barron.

„ Miss R. Dodds.

„ Mrs. Gunn.

„ T. Foster.

„ W. Tait.

„ Mrs. Heppell.

Councillor G. Robertson.

#### Co-opted Members :—

Mr. R. J. Smith (Home Teaching Society for the Blind).

Councillor Burdon

} Education

Councillor Stone

} Committee.



## STAFF

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

JAMES GRANT, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H. (Glasgow)

### ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

MARGARET B. HERBST, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., (Durham)  
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.  
S. D. ROWLANDS, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.  
B. SERGEANT, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., Senior Assistant School Medical Officer  
and Assistant Tuberculosis Officer (Resigned 18/9/38).  
H. J. PETERS, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., Senior Assistant School Medical Officer  
and Assistant Tuberculosis Officer.  
M. DODDS, M.B., B.S., .....Assistant School Medical Officer (Resigned 8/1/38).  
K. BATES, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. ....Ass tant School Medical Officer.  
I. M. PRATT, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer  
(Commenced 14/2/38).  
L. H. MURRAY, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. Assistant School Medical Officer  
(Commenced 24/10/38)

### PART-TIME OPHTHALMIC SURGEON.

H. VERNON INGRAM, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.O.M.S.

### PART-TIME RADIOLOGIST.

... .. E. RAMAGE, M.D., Ch.B., D.M.R.E.

### DENTAL OFFICERS.

D. SKINNER, L.D.S.,  
I. R. BOWLBY, L.D.S.  
Miss B. MACDONALD, L.D.S., (Commenced 1/11/38).

### HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES.

\*†F. J. J. Bolland, \*†M. McLachlan, \*†C. Robson, \*†xI. Rouse, \*†E.  
McHugh, \*†S. Frisken, \*†I. Paling (resigned 12/9/38), \*†xM. Atkinson,  
\*†xS. L. Burnett, \*†xN. Denton, \*†xD. Nairn, \*†xS. W. Phelps, \*†xM.  
P. Ross, \*†xE. Hunter (resigned 14/5/38), \*†xA. E. Hagan (appointed  
9/5/38, resigned 28/8/38), \*†xK. I. M. Hodgson (appointed 21/6/38),  
\*†xC. E. Campbell (appointed 27/6/38). \*†xB. M. Langley (appointed  
1/9/38), \*†xI. Bradley (appointed 1/10/38).  
(\*State Registered Nurse. †Central Midwives Board Certificate. xHealth  
Visitor's Certificate.)

### PUBLIC

VACCINATORS. } A. MacArthur M.B., Ch.B., S. V. Robinson, L. R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.G.,  
W. R. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., W. J. Walters, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### VACCINATION OFFICER.

... .. T. Middlemast.

### CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND INSPECTOR UNDER DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

} R. W. Wilkinson.

### ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTORS.

\*S. Carter. \*†T. Heads. \*†O. C. Hogg. \*†J. P. Lavender. \*†W. A. Mears.  
\*S. Smith. \*†G. Charlton. \*†G. Neilson, \*J. Higgins (appointed Feb.).  
(\*Sanitary Inspector's Certificate R.S.I. †Meat Inspector's Certificate R.S.I.)

### VETERINARY OFFICER. (Part Time)

... .. T. R. Jarvie, M.R.C.V.S. (Retired 31/3/38).

### PUBLIC ANALYSTS.

... .. J. T. Dunn D.Sc., F.I.C. and H.C.L. Bloxam F.I.C.

### CLERICAL STAFF.

W. Robinson. N. Craig. B. Armatage. T. W. Scurfield. J. McCann  
H. Gibson, F. Fitzgerald, R. A. Sutton.  
Miss E. Fry, Miss P. Neilson, Mrs. M. Surtees, Miss N. Fisher,  
Miss M. Clayton.

### AMBULANCE DRIVERS.

... .. W. Barber. J. Nesbit.

### DISINFECTOR AND ATTENDANT.

... .. E. Littlehales.

### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL SERVICE.—(District Medical Officers)

G. Bindman, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., J. H. Dove, M.B., Ch. B., F.R.C.S., (Edin). W. J.  
Walters, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., W. R. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B.

## HOSPITALS.

### 1. SHERIFF HILL INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent ..... James Grant, M.D., D.P.H.  
Matron ..... Miss E. F. Robertson.

### 2. WHINNEY HOUSE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.

Resident Medical Officer ..... S. D. Rowlands, M.D., D.P.H.,  
Matron ..... Miss H. Brotherton.

### 3. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION. (Hospital Wards).

Resident Medical Officer ... L. L. Westrope, M.D., (Durham) L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., (Edin);  
L.R.F.P.S., (Glas).

Assistant Resident Medical Officer. ... G. A. Sharpe, M.B., B.S., (Durham).

Superintendent Nurse.

Miss E. E. Thirkell.

Consultants.

F. C. Pybus, M.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.

W. E. Hume, C.M.G., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Public Health Department,  
Greenesfield House,  
Mulgrave Terrace,  
Gateshead 8.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of Gateshead.

I beg respectfully to present to you my third annual report on the Public Health and Health Services of the Borough. The report is compiled in accordance with the directions of the Minister of Health and is intended to be a comprehensive summary of the health activities of a large County Borough.

For 1938 it is pleasing to have recorded an unprecedented low level of the principal vital statistics. In particular the infantile mortality rate of 66· and the low maternal mortality rate of 2·3 per 1,000 total births must give great gratification to the members of the local authority, the success of whose schemes for maternal and child welfare are judged by these two special statistical rates.

Much difficulty is being met by the local authority in making the necessary progress with the relief of bad housing conditions, but despite this, one forms the general impression that the nutrition and financial state of the townspeople are definitely improving, as a result of better employment facilities produced by the re-armament programme.

Substantial progress was made during 1938 towards implementing the Council's programme of hospital provision. The erection of the extensions of the isolation hospital began in May, while at the end of the year the plans of the lay-out and detail of the general hospital buildings had been approved by the Ministry of Health.

The influence of the Government's Civil Defence proposals upon the public health service did not make itself intensely felt until the month of crisis, September, 1938. Thence to the end of the year the tremendous responsibility of the casualty services of civil defence has undoubtedly interfered with the efficiency of the department, considered purely as a health department.

It has to be recognised, however, that civil defence measures are just as necessary for the welfare of the people as the public health service, but it is to be hoped that the necessity for the continuance of concentration upon civil defence precautions will pass away and leave doctors and other professional servants of the local authority, free to pursue their normal functions.

In conclusion I must place on record my gratitude and appreciation of the able assistance of my deputy, Dr. Margaret B. Herbst and also of the work of the entire medical, professional, lay and clerical staff of the department, who ably produced in different spheres their co-ordinated efforts towards a healthier and happier town.

Your obedient Servant,

**JAMES GRANT,**  
Medical Officer of Health.



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# **I. Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.**

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## PART I.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

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### A. GENERAL REMARKS.

In this area, during 1938, the changes which have been taking place for some time in Gateshead have continued to manifest their effects particularly in respect of the series of figures, by which towns can be compared with one another, namely the vital statistics. The happenings referred to, are the gradual improvement of the housing conditions of the town, whereby the insanitary and congested areas adjoining the riverside are being abandoned and inhabitants displaced further up the slopes of the hill, which is Gateshead, to well designed housing estates. At the same time, activities of private builders are causing the town to fill up towards the west and south, so that the boundaries are being overflowed.

The progress of the re-armament programme and the consequent resurgence of industry have also helped to relieve the financial embarrassment of the townspeople and so bring about better conditions of health. The outcome of these gradual and continuous changes is reflected in the steady fall of infantile mortality during the last few years, due principally to the decline of the fatal infections of childhood.

The rapid and continual enlargement of industrial activity on the Trading Estate in the Team Valley is a phenomenon that must be commented upon. From this great scheme, the industries of the district are undergoing marked extension and elaboration, while entirely new fields of employment are being introduced to the workers.

Substantial progress continues to be made with the development of the local health services, and during the year the Greenesfield Health Centre was opened and the foundation stone of the new Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital extension laid. Further progress has also been made with the planning of the proposed general hospital, the erection of which will probably be commenced in 1939.

Since September, the development of the Casualty Service of the "Civil Defence" movement has been an added responsibility to the public health department, and, not unnaturally, the necessity to frame and implement schemes for the handling of casualties has deflected a good deal of the attention of the department from its proper sphere of public health towards its new duty.

## B. SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Reference has been made to the development of the Team Valley Trading Estate and it is interesting to note that while at the end of 1937, 27 factories were in occupation, of which 23 were in actual process of production, at the end of 1938, no less than 74 factories were in operation. The industries which are carried out in these new and model workplaces are given in the list below :—

### FACTORIES, ETC. IN OPERATION.

Air Raid Precaution Materials .....	7
Building Materials .....	7
Box and Carton Makers .....	2
Edible products .....	18
Electrical Work and Materials .....	9
Fancy Goods .....	5
Furnishings .....	2
Furniture .....	2
Engineering (Light) .....	5
Miscellaneous .....	4
Motor Engineers .....	1
Printers .....	1
Wearing Apparel .....	7
Woodworkers .....	4
	<hr/>
	74
	<hr/>

No industry within the Borough is of a dangerous nature, nor have any complaints been heard suggesting any suspicion of unfavourable influence for the workers. Male and unmarried female labour continue to be largely employed.

## UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS.

The following figures supplied by the Manager of the Employment Exchange summarises the position at the end of each of the last 7 years :—

### Wholly Unemployed.

	Dec. 1932	Dec. 1933	Dec. 1934	Dec. 1935	Dec. 1936	Dec. 1937	Dec. 1938
Men .....	10,736	10,137	9,880	9,541	6,028	6,134	6,344
Women .....	871	898	849	833	697	763	773
Boys (under 18) .....	424	458	525	208	95	135	159
Girls (under 18) .....	291	391	474	149	35	75	233
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,322	11,884	11,728	10,731	6,855	7,107	7,509



**On Short Time.**

Men .....	1,745	1,073	1,139	904	676	452	703
Women .....	415	265	289	173	322	122	137
Boys .....	69	30	34	29	14	6	11
Girls .....	71	52	37	25	50	173	37
	2,300	1,420	1,499	1,131	1,062	753	888

**STATISTICS OF POOR LAW OUTDOOR RELIEF.**

Through the kindness of the Public Assistance Officer, Mr. E. Waton, the following statistics for 1938 are included with comparative figures for previous years.

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
(1) Average weekly number of ordinary "Cases" chargeable.	1,559	1,705	1,922	2,172	2,319	2,752	3,077
(2) Average weekly number of able-bodied "Cases" chargeable	1,479	1,757	1,919	1,726	1,653	490	128
(3) Total cost of relief for the year.	£116,366	£128,017	£144,913	£155,588	£160,452	£118,917	£116,557
(4) Number of persons relieved ORDINARY.							
Men .....	671	732	847	998	1,075	1,358	1,513
Women .....	1,341	1,448	1,655	1,888	2,017	2,332	2,528
Children.....	913	966	1,111	1,291	1,231	1,500	1588
ABLE-BODIED.							
Men .....	1,397	1,636	1,799	1,623	1,538	444	103
Women .....	1,117	1,258	1,370	1,182	1,107	333	75
Children.....	2,266	2,665	2,897	2,342	2,045	546	65

**Indoor Relief.**

Persons chargeable to Gateshead in High Teams Institution at end of year—468.

**C. GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.**

Population (Estimated by Registrar-General 1938).....	117,000
Population of Present Borough (Census 1931).....	124,506
Area of Borough (in acres).....	4,468
Number of Inhabited Houses (Valuation Lists 1938).....	32,802
Density of Population per acre .....	26.1
Number of Persons per inhabited house.....	3.5
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1938.....	£556,395
Sum represented by Penny Rate.....	£2,195
Rate in the £ levied in 1938-1939 .....	16/-

**D. VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1938.**

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate
<b>Live Births.</b>				
Legitimate .....	994	954	1948	
Illegitimate .....	27	36	63	
Total ...	1021	990	2011	17.1 per 1000 of population.
<b>Still Births.</b>				
Legitimate .....	43	35	78	
Illegitimate .....	2	1	3	
Total ...	45	36	81	40.2 per 1000 total births.
<b>Deaths.</b> .....	788	682	1470	12.5 per 1000 of population.
<b>Excess of Births over Deaths</b> .....	233	308	541	
<b>Infantile Mortality.</b>				
Legitimate .....	78	50	128	65 per 1000 live legitimate births.
Illegitimate .....	1	4	5	75 per 1000 live illegitimate births.
Total ...	79	54	133	66 per 1000 live births.
<b>Maternal Mortality.</b>				
a. From Sepsis ...		1		.47 per 1000 total births.
b. From other causes		4		1.91 per 1000 total births.
Total ...		5		2.39 per 1000 total births.
<b>Deaths from Tuberculosis.</b>				
a. Pulmonary .....	64	51	115	.98 per 1000 of population.
b. Non-Pulmonary	12	8	20	.17 per 1000 of population.
c. All Forms ...	76	59	135	1.15 per 1000 of population.
<b>Deaths from epidemic diseases.</b>				
Scarlet Fever .....	0	0	0	
Diphtheria .....	6	9	15	
Measles .....	12	7	19	
Whooping Cough ...	8	3	11	
Enteric Fever .....	0	0	0	
Diarrhoea, infantile	8	6	14	
Total Zymotic Deaths	34	25	59	.50 per 1000 of population.
Deaths from Cancer	110	88	198	1.69 per 1000 of population.

**Population.**

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for the year 1938 reveals a further reduction of 600 as compared with the previous year and a reduction of 7,500 as compared with the census of 1931. This estimate may be justified in the list of past experience, but there is little doubt that the end of the decline of the local population is now in sight.

How far the estimated reduction of population is in accordance with facts will probably soon be known, as the result of the next census, which may be taken for national reasons, before the usual time, namely 1941.

The percentage of deaths of persons over 65 years of age continues to rise, as is shown in the table given below.

Year.	Total Deaths.	Deaths over 65 years.	Percentage.
1938	1470	630	42%
1937	1612	679	42%
1936	1578	609	37%
1935	1609	631	39%
1934	1645	605	36%
1933	1645	600	35%
1932	1639	545	33%
1931	1709	670	33%
1930	1547	511	33%
1920	1800	541	30%

### **Births.**

The birth rate in Gateshead seems to have become stabilised at a figure of roughly 17 per 1000, giving approximately 2000 births per annum.

### **Deaths.**

A gratifying feature of the year 1938 was a fall in the death rate to 12·5 per 1000, as compared with rates of 11·6 for England and Wales and 11·7 for the County Boroughs. In 1937 the rate was 13·7. The rate for 1938 represents 1,470 deaths.

A complete analysis of the causes of deaths classified by age, sex and ward distribution is included in the appendix.

Perusal of this table shows that the killing diseases are:— heart and circulatory disease 497 or 33% of the total deaths, cancer 198 or 13%, tuberculosis 13·5 or 9% and pneumonia 144 or 9%. Certain features relating to the death rate must give considerable cause for gratification to the local authority. The infantile mortality rate of 66 is the lowest ever recorded in the history of the Borough, the previous lowest being 75 in 1933 and 77 in 1937.



# County Borough of Gateshead

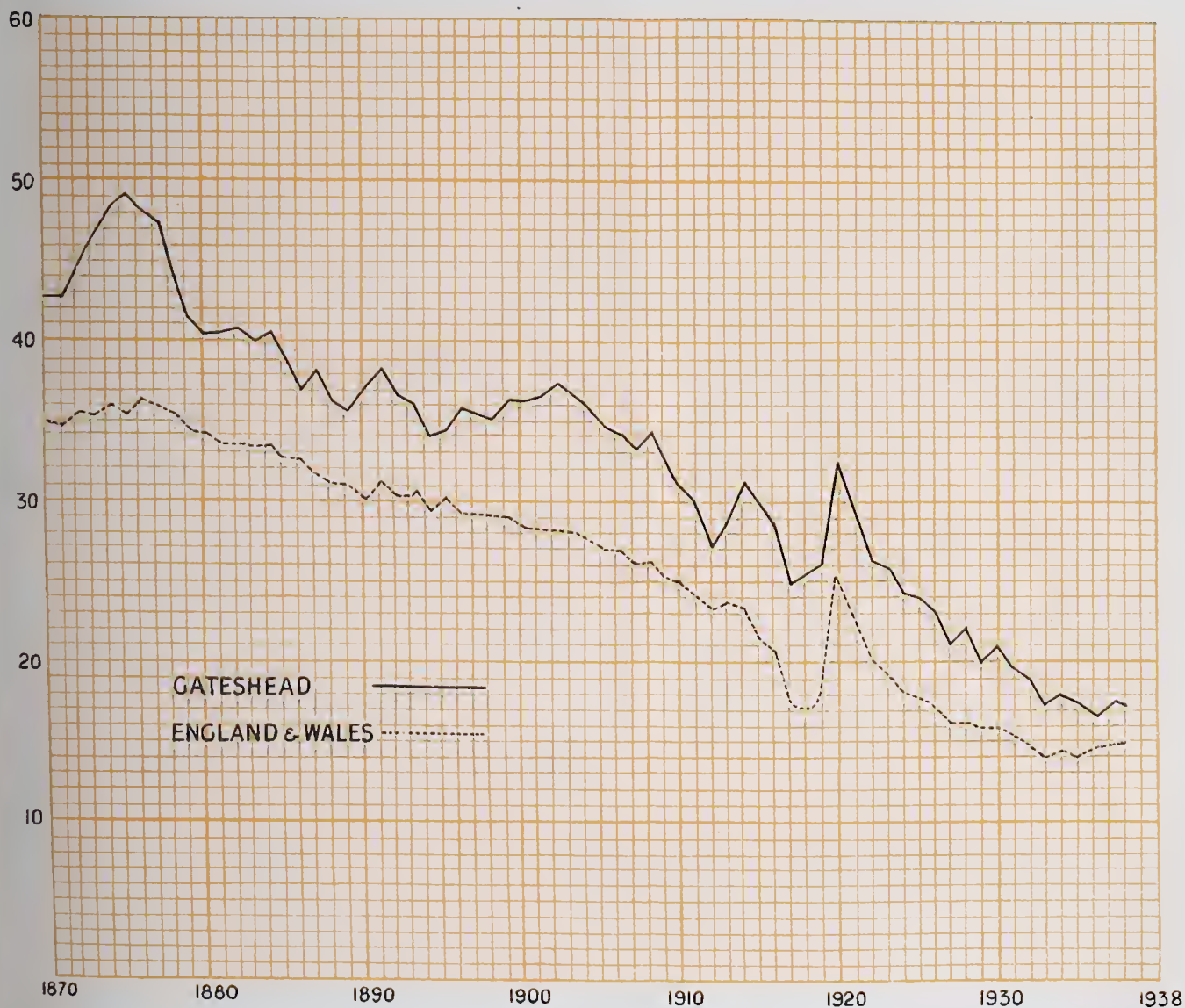
## BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population

### 1871-1938

#### AVERAGE BIRTH RATES

1871-1880 45.3	1881-1890 38.6	1891-1900 36.0	1901-1910 34.8	1911-1920 28.7	1921-1930 24.0
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Rate per  
1000

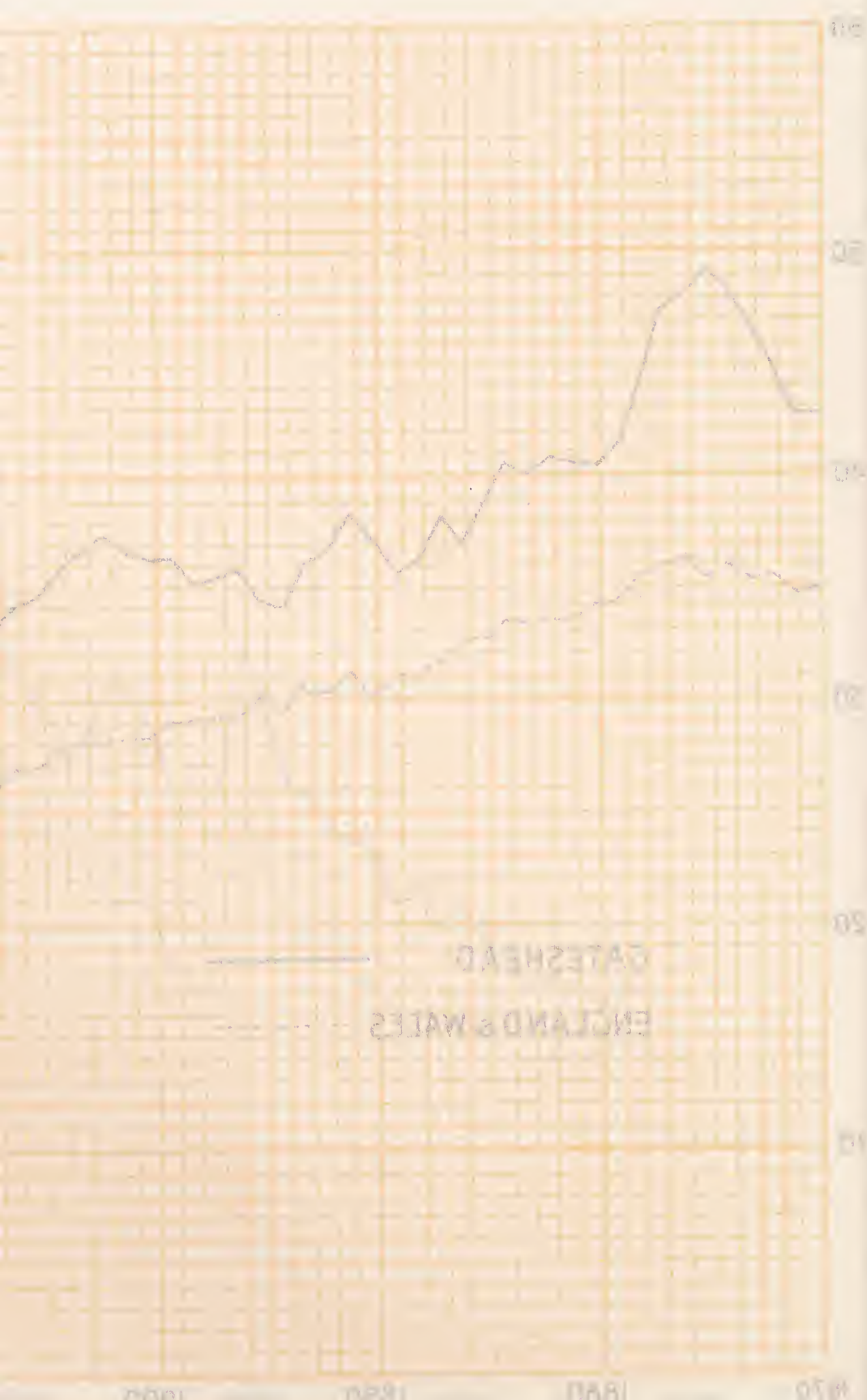


# BIRTH RATE per 1,000

1871-1938

## AVERAGE BIRTH RATES

1871-1880	1881-1890	1891-1900	1901-1910	1911-1920	1921-1930	1931-1938
24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0





# County Borough of Gateshead

## BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population

### 1871-1938

#### AVERAGE BIRTH RATES

1871-1880  
45.3

1881-1890  
38.6

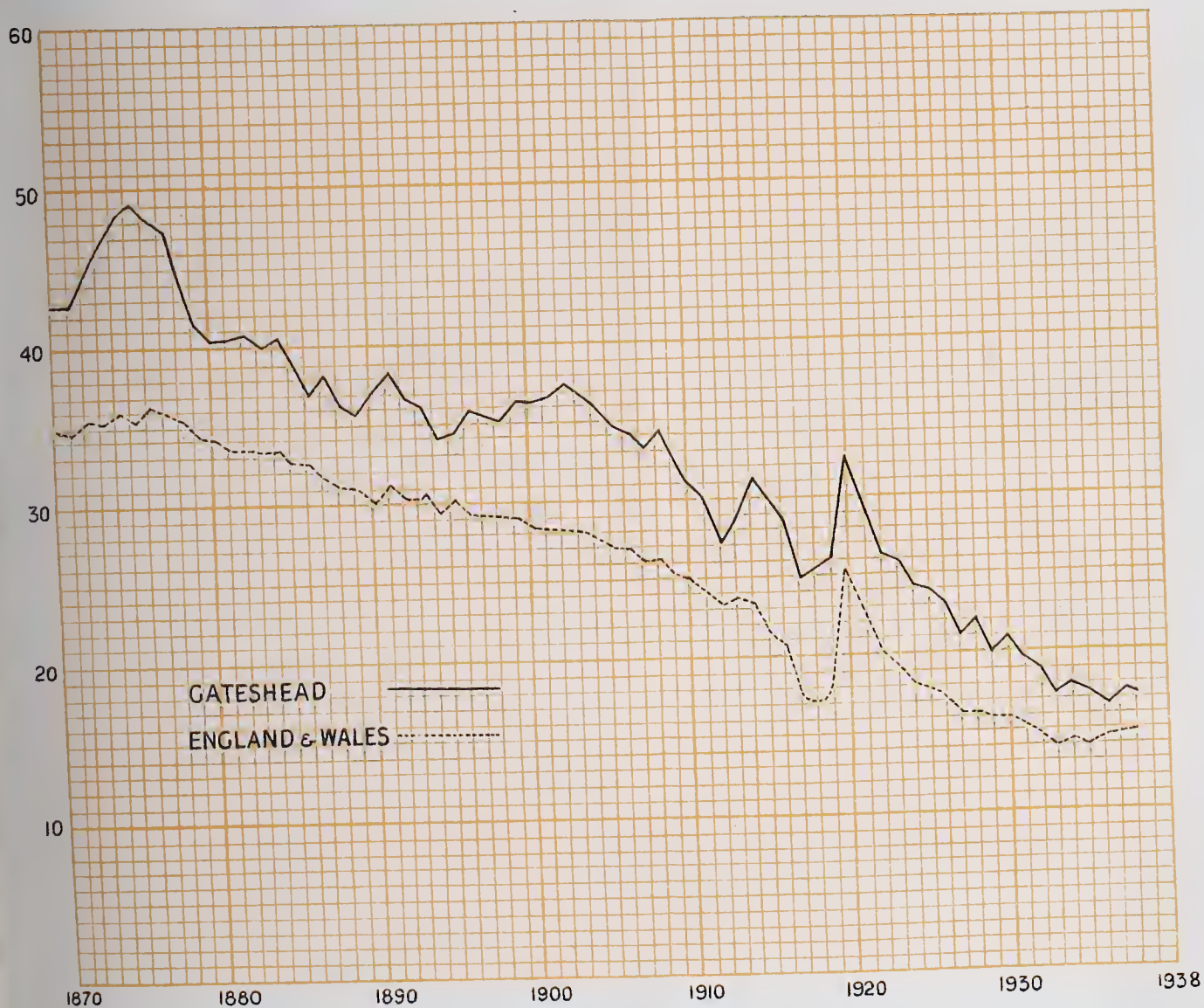
1891-1900  
36.0

1901-1910  
34.8

1911-1920  
28.7

1921-1930  
24.0

Rate per  
1000

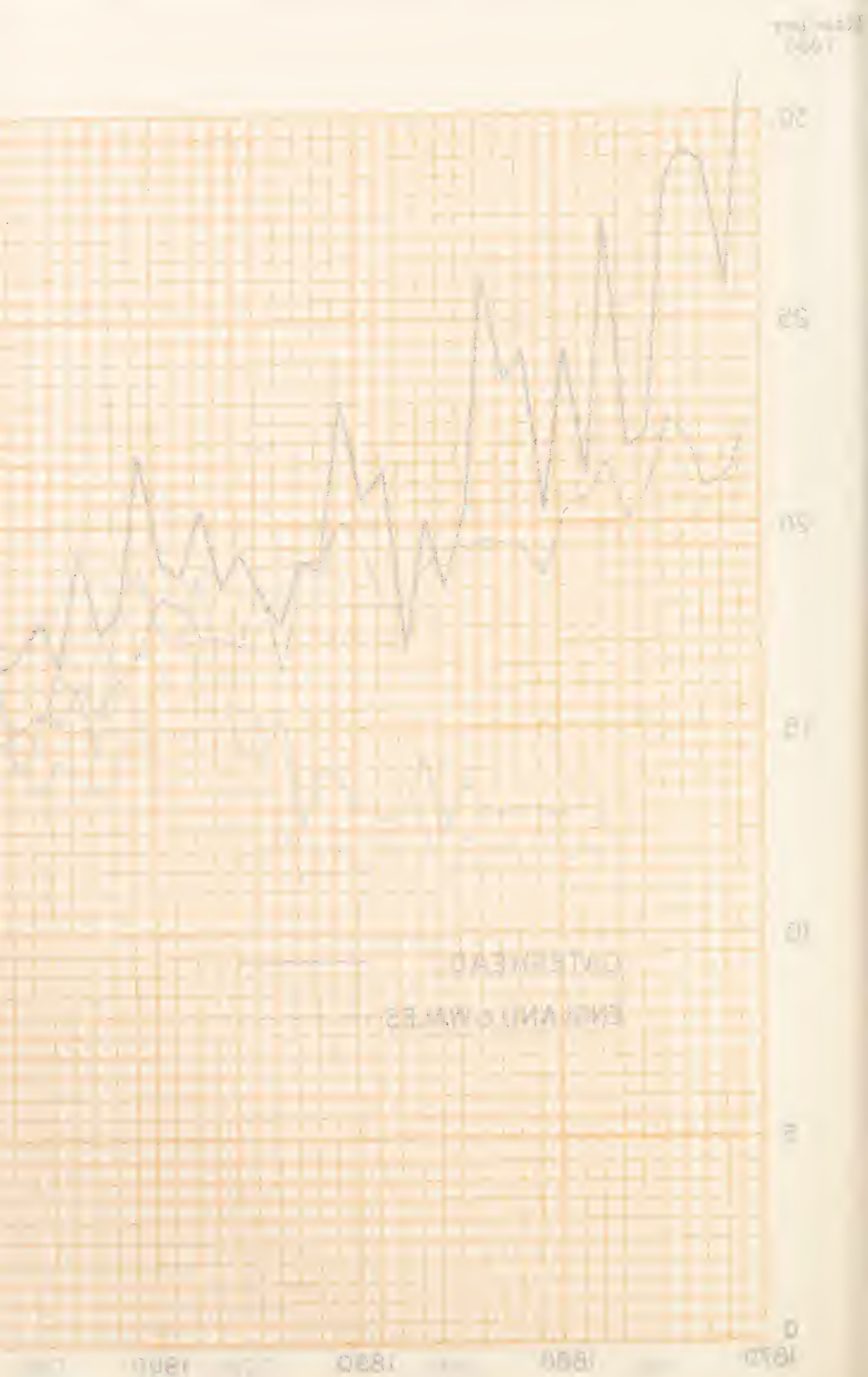


# DEATH RATE per 1,000 (at all ages and from all causes)

1871-1938

## AVERAGE DEATH RATES

1871-1880 1881-1890 1891-1900 1901-1910 1911-1920 1921-1938





The death rate from zymotic diseases remains at a very low figure, namely .5 per 1000, and the slight increase in the tuberculosis death rate would seem to be co-incidental. The maternal mortality rate of 2.3 is also the lowest recorded in the history of the Borough and would seem to reflect the success of the new midwifery scheme of the local authority. The cancer death rate, however, continues to increase, and gives point to the latest duty to be carried out by local authorities, namely the provision of facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of this disease.

The following table summarises the principal statistical rates for the last 10 years :—

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929
Population	117,000	117,600	119,026	121,200	123,000	124,320	122,500	123,700	122,600	126,200
Birth Rate	17.1	17.7	17.2	18.1	18.4	18.0	19.3	20.0	21.3	20.4
Death Rate	12.5	13.7	13.2	13.2	13.3	13.2	13.3	13.8	12.6	14.6
Infantile Mortality Rate	66.	77.	91.	90.	87.	75.	94.	100.	91.	107.
Maternal Death Rate per 1000 total births	2.3	3.6	6.0	5.6	5.9	3.3	6.0	4.2	7.6	6.1
Tuberculosis Death Rate	1.15	1.12	1.12	1.24	1.39	1.37	1.56	1.47	1.41	1.72
Zymotic Death Rate	.50	.45	.77	.52	.69	.53	.58	.68	.58	.84
Cancer Death Rate	1.69	1.67	1.67	1.30	1.43	1.41	1.41	1.18	1.19	1.27

# Vital Statistics for the whole district during 1938 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.			Transferable Deaths.*		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents Registered in the District.	of Residents not Registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.
			Number.	Rate.							Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1928	123,100	2502	2752	22.3	1469	11.9	73	237	234	85.	1633	13.2	
1929	122,600	2267	2503	20.4	1634	13.3	93	259	269	107.	1800	14.6	
1930	122,600	2344	2619	21.3	1401	11.4	85	231	240	91.	1547	12.6	
1931	123,700	2238	2480	20.0	1566	12.6	92	235	250	100.	1709	13.8	
1932	122,500	2078	2369	19.3	1527	12.4	101	213	224	94.	1639	13.3	
1933	124,320	1964	2238	18.0	1516	12.1	92	221	170	75.	1645	13.2	
1934	123,000	1965	2264	18.4	1474	11.9	74	245	197	87.	1645	13.3	
1935	121,200	1903	2202	18.1	1410	11.6	70	269	199	90.	1609	13.2	
1936	119,026	1796	2050	17.2	1429	12.0	73	222	187	91.	1578	13.2	
1937	117,600	1783	2090	17.7	1478	12.4	88	222	161	77.	1612	13.7	
1938	117,000	1695	2011	17.1	1296	11.0	59	233	133	66.	1470	12.5	

\* "Transferable Deaths" are Deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided.

**E. WARD STATISTICS.**

Ward.	Estimated Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality	Tuberculo- sis Death Rate	Zymotic Death Rate	Cancer Death Rate	Respira- tory Disease Death Rate
I. North .....	8582	23.0	12.4	45	1.51	.34	1.16	1.86
II. North East	7772	19.1	13.9	67	1.67	.90	1.93	1.54
III. North West	13574	21.8	14.0	94	1.47	.73	1.62	1.98
IV. Central .....	10843	14.5	14.5	56	1.10	.73	2.21	1.93
V. East Central	11233	22.9	12.7	77	1.33	.71	1.69	1.33
VI. South Central	10883	10.3	11.0	35	.82	.27	1.28	.55
VII. West Central	10746	15.1	11.4	67	.65	.27	2.04	.55
VIII. East .....	16452	16.9	12.3	68	1.94	.48	1.39	.91
IX. South .....	12882	13.5	11.4	34	.23	.15	2.17	.93
X. West .....	14033	15.8	12.0	76	.78	.49	1.49	.99
	117000	17.1	12.5	66	1.15	.50	1.69	1.23

It will be noted in the above table that the population in wards 1 to 5 continues to diminish while that of wards 6 to 10 would appear to be well maintained, and the population of the east ward tends to increase from year to year, as a result of the rehousing activities of the local authority. Unfortunately the effect of this is shown in the high tuberculosis death rate recorded for the east ward, in which area families affected by the disease have been rehoused. The infantile mortality rates no longer show the same sharp cleavage into two categories, namely wards with a high and those with a low figure, but reveal a more random distribution of the unfavourable figures. The north-west, east-central, west-central, east and west wards show the highest mortality. It will be noted that the wards with the high birth rates are not necessarily the wards with the highest infantile mortality and zymotic death rates. As in former years the respiratory diseases death rate continues to be markedly higher in the first 5 wards and lower in the others.





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## **II. Health Services of the Area.**

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## A. HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

During the year planning of the new general hospital of 245 beds adjoining the Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital continued to have the attention of the department. Frequent conferences with the officials of the Ministry of Health substantially shortened the procedure and at the end of the year the draft plans for the erection of the general hospital had been approved.

The new hospital will take form on a site of some 12 acres, with the nurses' home immediately fronting the road. Entrance to the Hospital proper will be by a road-way passing east of the nurses' home, from which a common entrance gives access to the administrative offices on the west and to the out-patients departments on the east. Running southwards from the administrative block, which will be of three storeys, there will be two corridors connecting the administrative block to the ward units proper. On the east corridor, access will be available to the operating suite and to the X-ray department. On the west corridor there will be access to a substantial stores department. The hospital units proper will be disposed in three storeys, the medical units, each of roughly 30 beds, being on the east side of the block, the surgical units, similarly designed, in the centre of the block and the children's and special units on the west of the block. Provision will be made for prolongation of the two corridors through the hospital block to any future extension, which will take the form of a repetition of the hospital block.

The progress of the extension of the Isolation Hospital, which is in a way prior to the erection of the new general hospital, continues and will link up the latter when it has taken concrete form. The foundation stone of the administrative block and nurses' home was laid in the month of September by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and by the end of the year the administrative and the two new cubicle wards had been erected and were awaiting the operations of the plasterers and heating engineers. Certain difficulties in connection with the hospital scheme, which have delayed matters, are mainly in connection with the engineering services of the two hospitals, these services being common to both.





**MATERNITY.**

Princess Mary Maternity Hospital (281 deliveries)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	387
High Teams Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
								<hr/> 419

**GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL.**

Royal Victoria Infirmary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1626
The Hospital for Sick Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
Gateshead Children's Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	978
High Teams Institution (Hospital beds)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	920
								<hr/> 3697

**SPECIAL HOSPITALS.**

Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, Rye Hill	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Eye Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Babies' Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Stannington Mental Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 231

Grand Total ... 

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5260

**B. CLINICS AND WELFARE FACILITIES.**

The Greenesfield Health Centre was opened in May, 1938, and as a result the clinic facilities for the district underwent rapid extension and complete co-ordination. The same facilities are now available for the treatment of pre-school children as for the treatment of school children. One great advance that was made during 1938 was the appointment of an additional dentist and the initiation of a scheme for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers, whereby these individuals may have, where necessary, dentures fitted after the removal of carious teeth. The three dental officers devote one third of their total time to cases coming under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

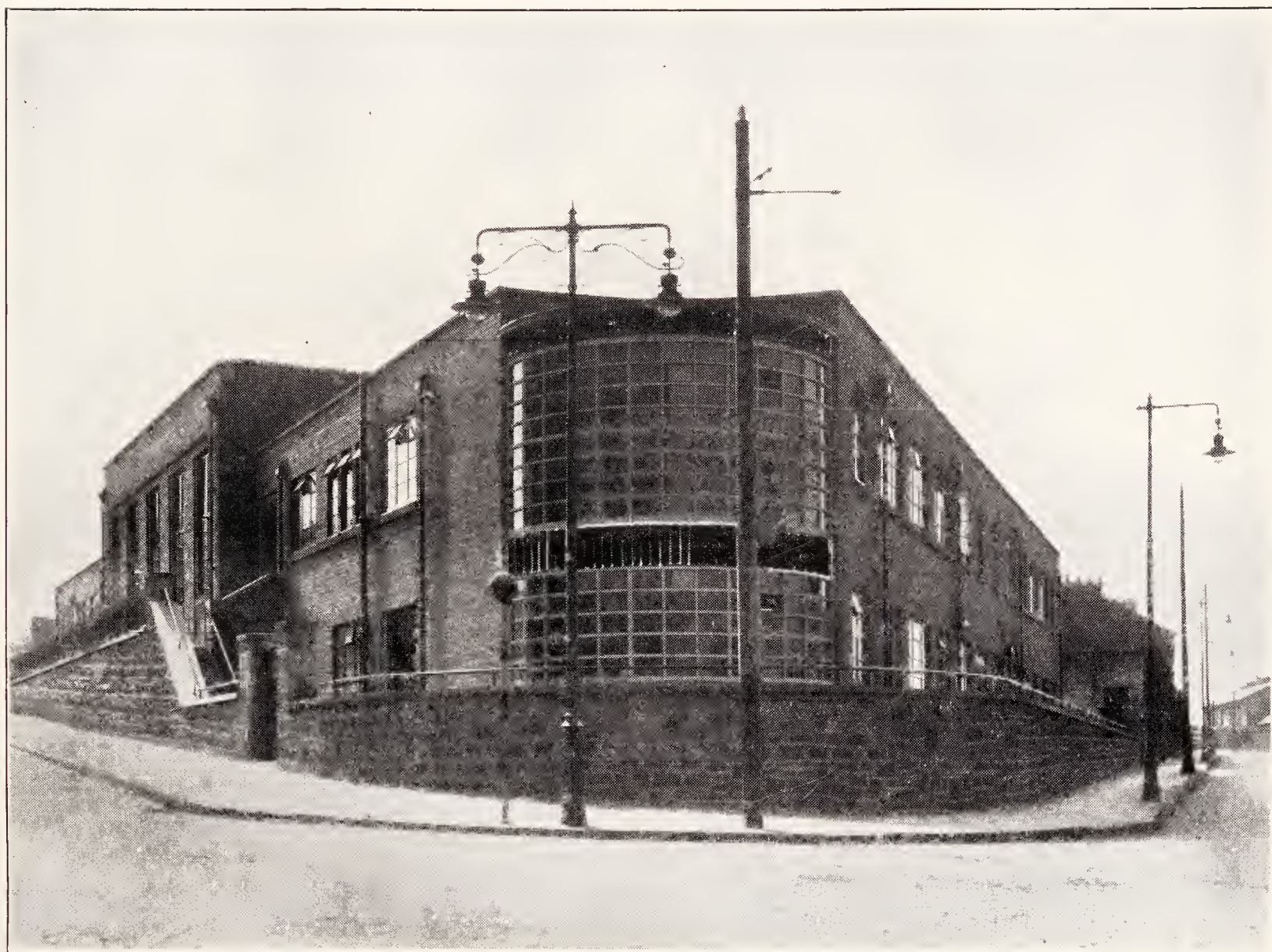
In the actual operation of the health centre, the following new features are worthy of interest:—the provision of ultra-violet-ray treatment, the extension of facilities for bathing in the form of two spray baths and a dressing room, and the provision for disinfection of personal attire by steam. There is also provided a dark room for the testing of defective sight.

In the dental department a gratifying feature is the complete facilities for gas and oxygen anaesthesia, both short and prolonged. A plan of the building, showing facilities provided, is included with this report.

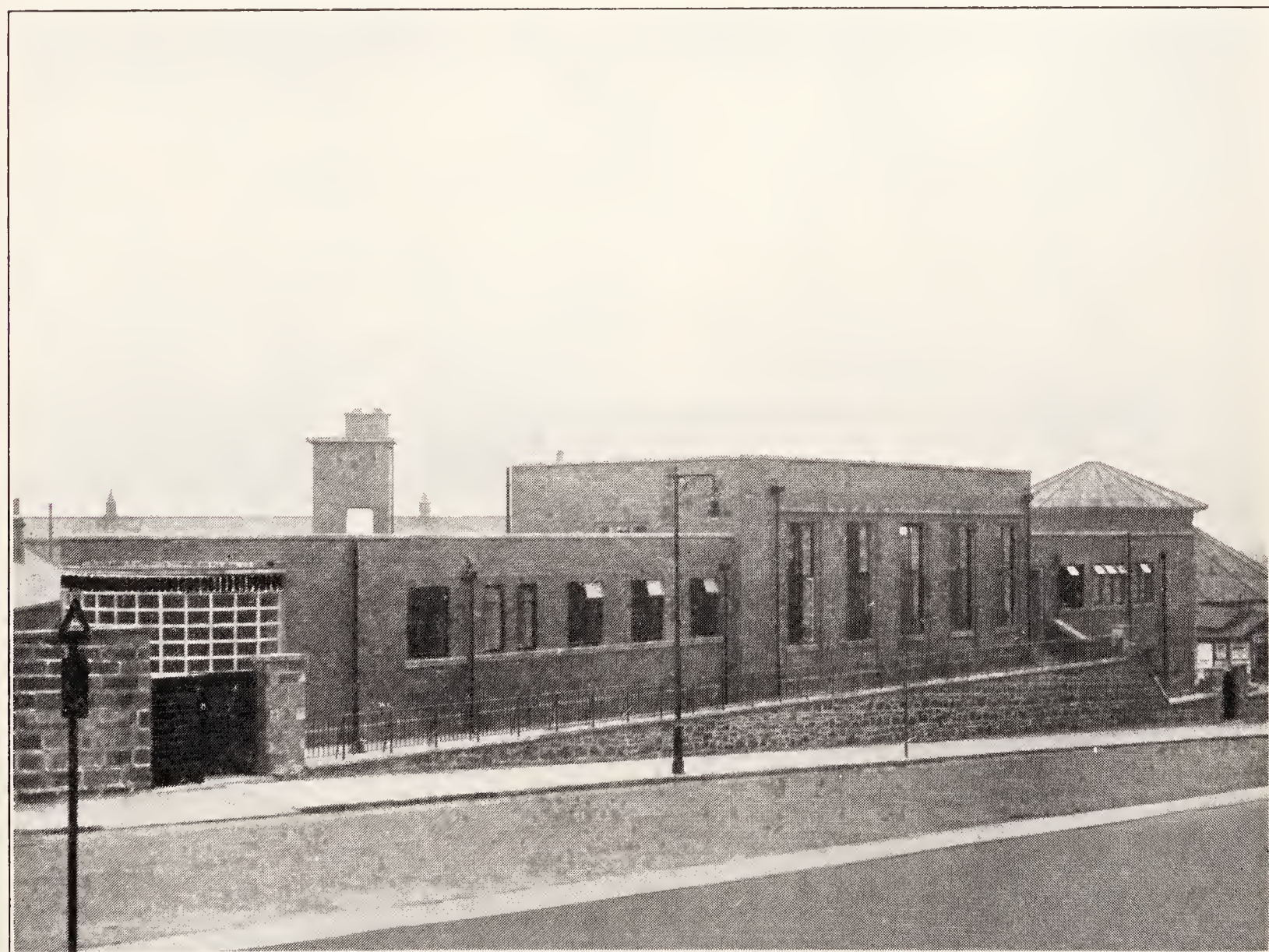
One unforeseen use to which the health centre has been devoted has been the tuition of volunteers for Civil Defence in first aid. The central waiting hall serves admirably as a lecture and demonstration room for this purpose and also for holding health lectures.



# GREENESFIELD HEALTH CENTRE.



FROM ASKEW ROAD.

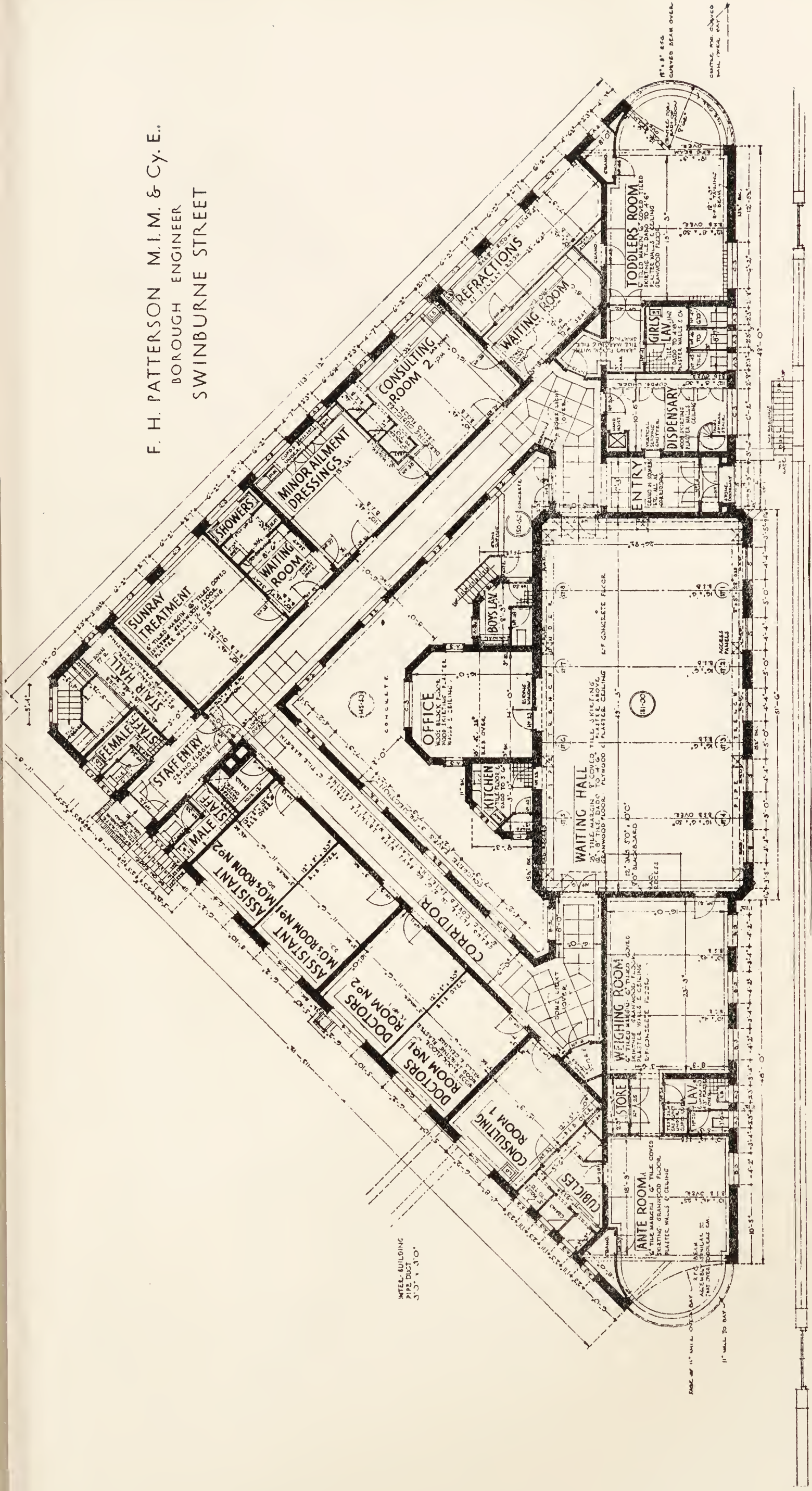


FROM MULGRAVE TERRACE.





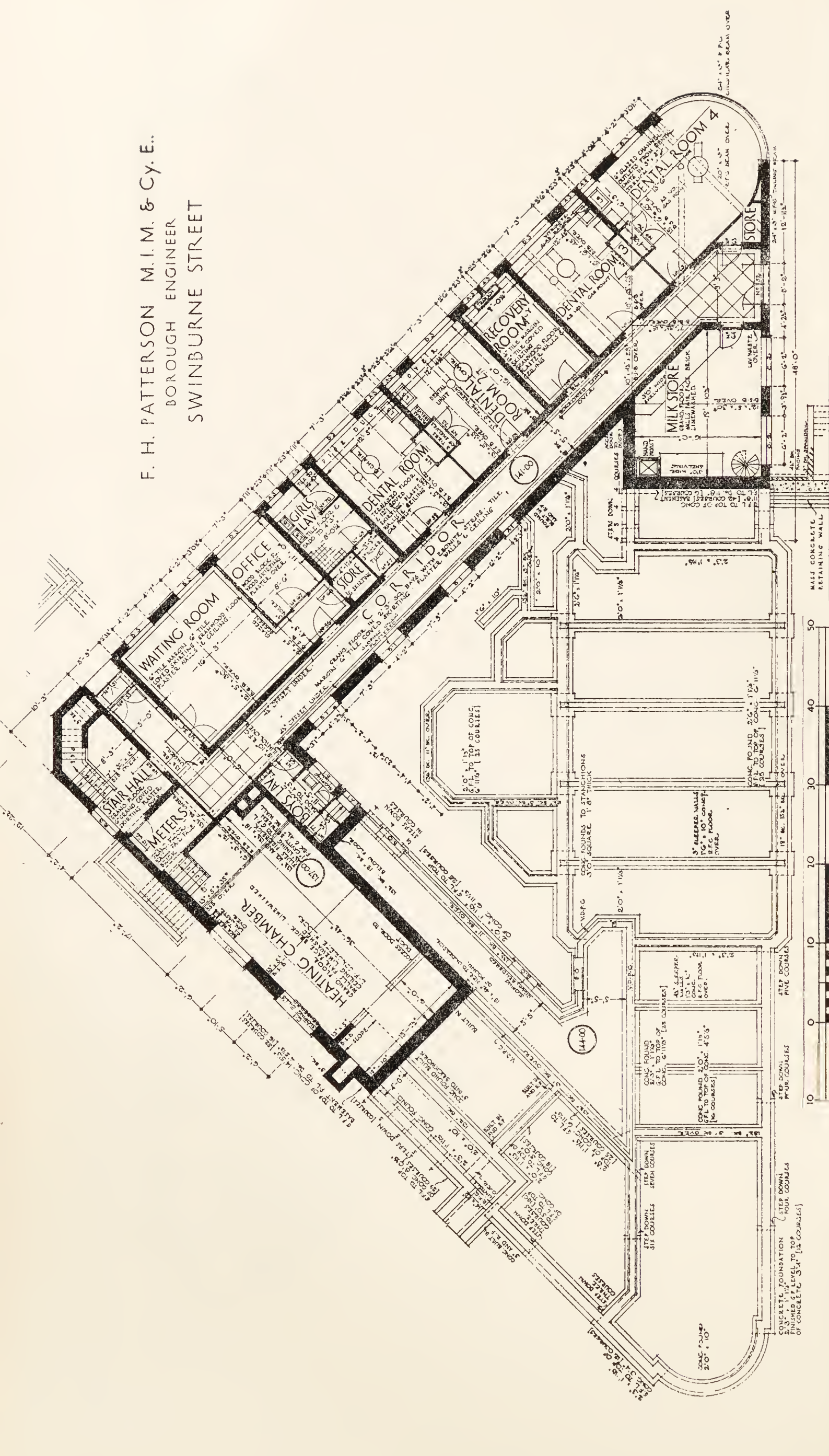
F. H. PATTERSON M.I.M. & Cy. E.,  
BOROUGH ENGINEER  
SWINBURNE STREET



GREENESFIELD HEALTH CENTRE—UPPER FLOOR.



F. H. PATTERSON M.I.M. & Cy. E.  
BOROUGH ENGINEER  
SWINBURNE STREET



GREENESFIELD HEALTH CENTRE—LOWER FLOOR.



The clinics and centres serving the area are listed below:—

- (1) **GREENESFIELD HEALTH CENTRE.**  
 School Clinic ... 9 a.m.—9-30 a.m. daily.  
 4 p.m.—5 p.m. daily—except Saturdays.  
 Infant Welfare Centre ... 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Tuesday and Thursday.  
 (Medical Session—Tuesday. Nurses' Session—Thursday).  
 Ante-Natal Clinic ... 10 a.m. to 12 noon—Wednesday.  
 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Wednesday and Friday.  
 Post-Natal Clinic ... 2 to 5 p.m. Monday.  
 Tuberculosis Dispensary ... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (Saturday, open till 12 noon only). Also open once per month on Wednesday Evening from 5 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.  
 School Dental Clinic ... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (by appointment). Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.  
 Ophthalmic Clinic ... By special appointment.
- (2) **GATESHEAD DISTRICT NURSES' HOME.**  
 Ante-Natal Clinic ... Tuesday 2 to 4-30 p.m. (District Nurses cases only.)
- (3) **BENSHAM SETTLEMENT.**  
 Infant Welfare Centre ... 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Tuesday and Thursday.  
 (Medical Session—Thursday. Nurses' Session—Tuesday).
- (4) **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HALL, LOW FELL.**  
 Infant Welfare Centre ... 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Wednesday (Medical Session).
- (5) **MOORE STREET METHODIST HALL.**  
 Infant Welfare Centre ... 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Monday (Medical Session).
- (6) **WREKENTON MINERS' WELFARE HALL.**  
 Ante-Natal Clinic and Infant Welfare Centre 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon—Alternate Thursdays.
- (7) **VICTORIA ROAD METHODIST CHURCH HALL.**  
 Infant Welfare Centre ... 10 a.m. to 12 noon—Tuesday. (Medical Session).
- (8) **NEWCASTLE GENERAL HOSPITAL.**  
 Joint Committee Venereal Diseases Clinic for the Tyneside Area. (Medical Officer—Dr. A. E. W. McLachlan).  
*Medical Officer's Hours*—Monday to Friday—10 to 12 a.m. and 3 to 7 p.m. Saturday—11 to 12 noon and 4-30 to 6-30 p.m.  
*Hours for Treatment*—7-30 a.m. to 7-30 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays. 10 to 12 noon—Sundays and Holidays.

## C. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(Report by Dr. Margaret B. Herbst.)

### 1. MIDWIVES.

Twenty-seven midwives notified their intention to practise midwifery in the Borough. All these are qualified by examination and possess the certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

On the whole the midwives have carried out their duties efficiently and have paid close attention to the rules and regulations of the Central Midwives' Board.

There was no necessity to proceed against any of them during the year, but warning notices were sent regarding minor deviations from the rules in three cases.

## List of Midwives who have notified their intention to practise as Midwives within the Borough in 1939.

### Municipal Midwives.

				Enrolment No.
1 Bell,	Dorothy E.	...	6, Chepstow Gardens, Gateshead ...	69702
2 Bolam,	Mary A.	...	" Glenroyd," Dryden Road S., Gateshead	54946
3 Exley,	Elsie	...	62, The Avenue, Sheriff Hill, Gateshead...	51937
4 Faldon,	Annie W.	...	215, Sunderland Road, Gateshead	85921
5 Jobson,	Gladys May	...	58, Saltwell Road, Gateshead	71062
6 May,	Wilhelmina...	...	229, Victoria Road, Gateshead	58007
7 Ottaway	Louisa J.	...	2, George Street, Gateshead	67421
8 Poole	Sarah	...	49, Exeter Street, Gateshead	76016
9 Smithson	Henrietta	...	72, Inskip Terrace, Gateshead	65996
10 Tait,	Sarah J.	...	41, Kell's Lane North, Low Fell, Gateshead	25858

### District Nursing Association.

1 Barton,	Rosina	...	District Nurses' Home, Coatsworth Road,	50162
2 Burns.	Amelia Mary	...	Gateshead	103142
3 Morrison,	Margaret M.	...	" " " "	55970
5 Patterson,	Theresa	...	" " " "	93953
7 Phalp,	Annie	...	" " " "	72903
6 Ross,	Annie	...	" " " "	98700
8 Sinclair,	Isabel M.	...	" " " "	81211
9 Stoddart,	Jeannie F.	...	" " " "	101377

### Midwives in Private Practice.

1 Anderson,	Lily	...	11, Newton Street, Gateshead	72218
2 Brown,	Gladys	...	141, Rodsley Avenue, Gateshead	82450
3 Conner,	Helen S.	...	28, Denmark Street, Gateshead	58275
4 Fawcett,	Annie	...	42, Glenbrooke Terrace, Gateshead	67731
5 Gordon,	Elizabeth	...	Chalet Nursing Home, Cornmoor Road, Whickham	88839
6 Hannant,	Sarah	...	13, Pottersway, Sheriff Hill, Gateshead	79056
7 Phillipson,	Ellen	...	Glencairn, Long Bank, Wrekenton, Gateshead	72332
8 Ross,	Ethel	...	145, Prince Consort Road, Gateshead	33182
9 Stewart,	Sybil	...	16, Causeway, Sheriff Hill, Gateshead	90253

Routine visits have been paid to the midwives practising in the Borough and inspections made of their registers of cases, temperature charts, ante-natal records, bags and appliances.

Five midwives had their bags, appliances and clothing disinfected during the year.

## 2. BIRTHS.

There were 2011 live births registered during 1938. This figure includes 316 babies born to Gateshead parents in other areas, chiefly in Newcastle Maternity Hospital. Of the total live births, 1021 were males and 990 females. This represents a birth rate of 17.1 per 1,000 of the population, showing a decrease of .6 per 1,000 from 1937. 63 births (27 males and 36 females) or 3.1 per cent were illegitimate.

The following is a summary of the number of live births and birth rate for each ward:—

Ward.	No. of Live Births.	Birth Rate.
North	198	23.0
North-East	149	19.1
North West	297	21.8
Central	158	14.5
East Central	258	22.9
South Central	113	10.3
West Central	163	15.1
East	279	16.9
South	174	13.5
West	222	15.8

It will be seen that the highest birth rate occurred in the North Ward and the lowest in the South Central Ward.

The particulars regarding the live births and stillbirths occurring during the year are as follows:—

<i>Attended by</i>	<i>No. of Live Births.</i>	<i>No. of Still Births.</i>
Doctors ... ..	490	31
Midwives ... ..	1031	29
Maternity Hospital—		
(a) In wards ... ..	287	20
(b) At home ... ..	152	1
Nursing Homes ... ..	51	—

In 415 of the doctors' cases a registered midwife was in attendance as a maternity nurse.

### Stillbirths.

There were 81 stillbirths during the year, of these 45 were males and 36 females.

79 stillbirths were investigated during the year; of this number 50 were at full term, 3 had reached the eighth month and 26 the seventh month of gestation.

The causes of the stillbirths were:—

	Full Term.	Pre- mature.
<b>1. Complications of Labour.</b>		
Breech Presentation.....	6	3
Face „ .....	2	1
Prolonged Labour .....	10	2
Difficult forceps delivery .....	5	—
Cord around foetus .....	2	1
Prolapse of cord .....	3	—
<b>2. Ante-Partum Haemorrhage.</b>		
Placenta Praevia .....	—	—
Accidental Haemorrhage.....	1	6
<b>3. Toxaemia of Pregnancy.</b>		
Albuminuria .....	3	5
Eclampsia .....	1	1
<b>4. General ill-health .....</b>	4	3
<b>5. Falls or other accidents .....</b>	1	2
<b>6. Foetal States.</b>		
Monster .....	1	2
Twin Pregnancy .....	—	2
Macerated foetus.....	5	—
<b>7. Causes unknown .....</b>	6	1
	<hr/> 50	<hr/> 29

In each case the mother was advised that in the event of a subsequent pregnancy, she should seek advice as early as possible, in the hope that by suitable treatment further stillbirths might be prevented.



### 3. WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS.

Each district in the Borough has been visited regularly by the health visiting staff, who call at homes where births have taken place. They also pay routine visits to children up to the age of five years, and special visits to homes where there are such diseases as ophthalmia neonatorum, measles, pneumonia, whooping cough or diarrhoea. The health visitors also act as tuberculosis nurses and as school nurses.

Two health visitors were added to the staff during the year ; this has resulted in a considerable increase in the home visiting of children between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

#### SUMMARY OF HOME VISITS.

##### Infants.

Born at full term . . . . 1439  
Prematurely . . . . . 41

##### At Six Months.

Breast fed . . . . . 656 (44·7%)  
Partially breast fed 143 (9·7%)  
Artificially fed 668 (45·6%)

##### Visits to Infants under 1 year :—

First Visits after notification . . . . . 1965  
No. of revisits . . . . . 7088  
No. of Stillbirths visited . . . . . 79  
Visits to children 1-5 years . . . . . 12532  
Visits to expectant mothers :—

First visits . . . . . 259  
No. of revisits . . . . . 53

##### Miscellaneous Visits.

	<i>1st visits</i>	<i>Revisits</i>	<i>Total</i>
Puerperal Disease . . . . .	1	10	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum . . . . .	8	79	87
Measles . . . . .	—	—	584
German Measles . . . . .	—	—	44
Whooping Cough . . . . .	—	—	154
Pneumonia . . . . .	110	19	129
Diarrhoea (Infantile) . . . . .	20	9	29
Jaundice . . . . .	25	4	29
Dysentery . . . . .	2	—	2
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis . . . . .	1	—	1
Infantile Paralysis . . . . .	2	3	5
Chicken Pox . . . . .	63	—	63
Pemphigus . . . . .	2	—	2
Encephalitis . . . . .	2	—	2
Mumps . . . . .	2	—	2

Scabies .....	11	—	11
Hare lip and cleft palate .....	1	—	1
Visits to Midwives .....	20	2	22
Visits to cases of Tuberculosis.....	299	1854	2153

The total number of visits paid by health visitors during the year was 25,307.

#### 4. ANTE-NATAL CARE.

Three sessions have been held throughout the year at the Greenesfield Ante-natal Clinic, two sessions on Wednesday and one on Friday afternoon. The opening of the new health centre at the end of April made a great difference to the comfort of the patients and to the ease with which the work could be carried out.

The Wrekenton Clinic has been held on alternate Thursday mornings, in conjunction with the Infant Welfare Centre. A session has also been held each Tuesday afternoon at the District Nurses' Home. This session is attended by mothers who have booked the district nurses as midwives. All patients who book the municipal midwives or district nurses as maternity nurses attend their own doctor for their ante-natal care, unless the doctor sends them to the ante-natal clinic.

The Wednesday afternoon session at the Greenesfield Health Centre is attended regularly by the midwives, where they are able to examine all their own cases. The work of the ante-natal clinics is increasing steadily. The following is a summary of the attendances at the various clinics :—

Centre	No. of Sessions	No. of 1st visits	No. of Revisits	Total Attendances	Average per Session
Greenesfield ... ..	155	1145	2175	3320	21.4
District Nurses' Home	47	333	457	790	16.8
Wrekenton ... ..	26	26	50	76	2.9
	228	1504	2682	4186	—

The following are particulars of mothers who attended the clinic during the year :—

945 live births.

36 still births.

7 miscarriages.

10 left the district.

37 not pregnant.

469 were undelivered at the end of 1938.





These gifts were for use during the 10 weeks preceding the confinement and for 3 weeks afterwards. This food has been a tremendous help and has done the mothers a great deal of good. The following is a table showing statistics in connection with mothers receiving food :—

Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st, 1938	No. of Neo-natal Deaths	No. of Still Births	No. of Maternal Deaths
Total number of mothers receiving food : 653	17	22	2
Total number of mothers not receiving food : 1,358	50	59	3

In addition to the assistance mentioned above, the Birthday Trust also sent parcels of sterilised maternity outfits for distribution to the wives of the unemployed. They were unable to continue this assistance after September. Packets of a similar nature are now stocked at the Greenesfield Health Centre and are given either free or at a reduced cost to needy mothers.

The municipal midwives have found these packets a great help in the performance of their work.

## 5. MATERNAL WELFARE.

### (a) Maternal Mortality.

During the year 5 women died from conditions associated with pregnancy and parturition. This was three less than last year. There were also two deaths among women who died from intercurrent disease of long standing ; the strain of pregnancy, although not the actual cause of death, probably brought about the final breakdown in these cases.

The following is an analysis of the cases :—

Case No.	Age	Midwife attending	Doctor attending	Booked Hospital Case	Removed to Hospital	Cause of Death
1	37	—	—	yes	—	Pregnancy kidney, confinement
2	44	—	—	yes	—	1 (a) Peritonitis (b) Caesarean Section (for contracted pelvis)
3	31	yes	—	—	yes	1 (a) Eclampsia, (b) Toxaemia of Pregnancy.
4	41	—	yes	—	yes	Uterine haemorrhage. 4 months miscarriage (inquest)
5	38	yes	yes	—	yes	1 (a) Shock and haemorrhage (internal) (b) Rupture of Uterus (c) Previous Caesarean Section

A survey of the causes of death shows that some are preventable provided that the mothers exercise the care which is necessary and make full use of the knowledge, skill and equipment which are available to them during pregnancy.

(b) Puerperal Infection.

The following is an analysis of the cases notified under the regulations :—

Case No.	Attendance	Removed to Hospital	End Result	Remarks
1	Ext. Hosp. Case	Yes	Recovered	B.B.A. Transient Pyrexia
2	Doctor	No	Recovered	Perineal tear
3	Midwife	No	Recovered	Normal Delivery. Pneumonia
4	Midwife	Yes	Recovered	Ragged Membranes. Pyrexia : pain in right iliac fossa.
5	Midwife	No	Recovered	Normal delivery. Pyrexia 7th day. Pneumonia.
6	Midwife	No	Recovered	Lacerated Perineum.
7	Doctor	No	Recovered	Prolonged labour. Breech delivery. Perineal tear.
8	Midwife	Yes	Recovered	B.B.A. Post-partum haemorrhage.
9	Midwife	No	Recovered	Forceps delivery. Perineal tear.
10	Midwife	No	Recovered	Forceps delivery. Perineal tear.
11	Doctor	No	Recovered	Normal delivery. Transient Pyrexia.
12	Midwife	No	Recovered	Perineal tear.
13	Doctor	No	Recovered	Forceps delivery. Perineal tear.
14	Midwife	No	Recovered	Normal delivery. Transient Pyrexia.
15	Doctor	No	Recovered	Breech delivery. Episiotomy.
16	Hospital	—	Recovered	—
17	Midwife	No	Recovered	B.B.A. Pain in right side.
18	Midwife	Yes	Recovered	Forceps delivery. Perineal laceration.
19	Midwife	No	Recovered	Torn Perineum.

C, Emergency Cases.

(Treated by Doctors under Midwives Act.)

In 333 cases, where a doctor was not previously engaged, medical aid was called by the midwife for the mother, infant or both. In 257 instances the medical aid was for the mother for the following emergencies :—

Prolonged labour .....	38	Albuminuria .....	7
Uterine inertia .....	11	Post partum haemorrhage .....	7
Malpresentation.....	15	Varicose veins .....	1
Complicated labour .....	11	Pain in leg .....	3
Cessation of pains .....	1	Inflamed veins .....	3
Twin pregnancy .....	2	Swelling of leg .....	4
Ante-partum haemorrhage .....	9	Pain in side .....	4
Placenta Praevia .....	2	Haemorrhoids .....	1
Retained Placenta .....	10	Delirium .....	1
Maternal distress .....	2	Spots .....	1
Miscarriage .....	5	Vaginal discharge .....	1
Prolapse of cord .....	2	Epilepsy .....	1
Lacerated perineum .....	98	Collapse .....	1
Vaginal laceration .....	1	Breast Abscess .....	1
Rise of temperature .....	11	Chest Condition .....	1
Fits .....	1	B.B.A.....	1

In 76 instances the medical aid was for the infant :—

Congenital debility and prematurity ...	23	Secondary haemorrhage from cord ...	1
Inflamed or discharging eyes .....	16	Vomiting blood .....	1
Spina Bifida .....	3	Vomiting food .....	1
Death of baby .....	2	Measles .....	1
Abnormality of infant.....	5	Congenital heart .....	1
Still birth .....	1	Chest condition .....	6
Pemphigus .....	1	Jaundice .....	3
Skin eruption .....	7	Passing blood .....	1
Injury to arm .....	1	Collapse .....	2

### Hospital Accommodation for Maternity Cases.

The local authority pays for the use of 5 beds in the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle. The following is a summary of the Gateshead cases admitted to the hospital during the year :—

Live births .....	275	Ruptured uterus .....	1
Still births .....	14	Cardiac disease .....	1
Abortions .....	62	Retained products .....	1
Puerperal pyrexia .....	9	Albuminuria .....	3
Hyperemesis Gravidarum .....	2	Pyelitis .....	1
Eclampsia.....	1	Breast Abscess .....	1
Hydatidiform mole.....	1	Pernicious Anaemia .....	1

Of the 275 live births, 238 were delivered normally, 21 by forceps and 16 by Caesarean Section. There are also 12 beds in the Maternity Ward of the High Teams Hospital; during the year there were 26 births in this institution.

### Maternity Provision for Unmarried Mothers.

Cases of this type are admitted to the High Teams Institution provided by the Gateshead Public Assistance Committee. A few cases go to the Hostel for unmarried mothers, Newcastle.

#### (d) Assistance by Local Authority.

##### Consultant Service.

In order to assist in the reduction of maternal mortality, arrangements are in operation for the calling in of a consultant obstetrician by the medical practitioner for :—

- (1) All cases of puerperal pyrexia or puerperal sepsis.
- (2) Any obstetric emergency in a patient who is unable to pay a consultant's fee.

The consultants were called five times under these arrangements.



### **Emergency Service.**

Gateshead participates in a scheme whereby a consultant and a team of nurses can be called out to deal with obstetric emergencies in the homes of the patients, where patients are too ill for removal to hospital.

This service has been called out to one case.

The consultants available are :—

Dr. Farquhar Murray, Newcastle.

Mr. Harvey Evers, Newcastle.

Mr. F. E. Stabler, Newcastle.

Mr. Wm. Hunter, Newcastle.

### **Home Helps.**

The names of several home helps are kept on a register at the Health Department. This service is not popular among the mothers and during the year there were no applications for the services of a home help.

### **Midwifery Outfits.**

Midwifery outfits containing clothing and bed linen necessary for both mother and infant are loaned out from the ante-natal clinic. During the year 68 patients availed themselves of these outfits.

### **(e) Municipal Midwifery Scheme—(Midwives Act, 1936.)**

The municipal midwives completed their first full year of service at the end of December. The scheme, as outlined in the report for last year, worked reasonably smoothly, although owing to pressure of additional work it was found necessary to appoint another midwife in March. During February, an extra temporary midwife was appointed to the staff of the District Nursing Association and as it was found that the numbers of patients for the municipal midwifery scheme were steadily increasing, it was felt that the best way to deal with the problem was to appoint a permanent additional midwife.

This was done by increasing the municipal midwifery staff to 10 instead of 9 as formerly.

The booking has been carried out at the central office by the booking nurse as in the previous six months. Most patients who book early are able to get the midwife of their own choice. The midwives attend in turn at the ante-natal clinics, so that they can see their own cases under better conditions than would be possible otherwise.

The following is a summary of the work done by the municipal midwives :—

	No. of Cases		No. of Morning Visits	No. of Evening Visits	Ante-Natal Visits
	Attended as Midwife	Attended as Maternity Nurse			
1	72	27	1118	211	280
2	32	25	915	212	138
3	45	38	1169	249	328
4	74	21	1150	194	258
5	70	4	1071	191	259
6	85	13	1174	203	167
7	108	—	1183	253	298
8	62	12	1050	216	213
9	45	43	1198	267	379
10	50	36	1207	284	210
Temp- p'ary Mid- wives	18	4	427	92	9
Total	661	223	11,662	2,372	2,539

The District Nurse Midwives are not booked individually, but take the cases in turn. The following is a summary of the work done by them :—

	No. of Cases		No. of Morning Visits	No. of Evening Visits	Ante-natal Visits
	Attended as Midwife	Attended as Maternity Nurse			
	372	164	6995	2137	1160

The following is a synopsis of the above cases :—

	No. of Cases	Live Births	Still Births	Mis-Carriage	Sent to Hospital	Maternal Deaths
Municipal Midwives ...	884	832	27	6	19	1
District Nurse Midwives	536	502	18	3	13	1
	1420	1334	45	9	32	2

There were 17 cases of puerperal pyrexia among the above cases, but none were of a serious nature. In 325 cases, where a doctor was not previously engaged, medical aid was called by the municipal midwives or district nurse midwives for the mother, infant or both.

In 250 instances the medical aid was for the mother for the following emergencies :—

	<i>Municipal Midwives</i>	<i>District Nurses</i>
Prolonged Labour .....	14	20
Uterine Inertia .....	8	3
Malpresentation.....	9	6
Complicated labour .....	9	2
Cessation of pains .....	—	1
Twin pregnancy .....	1	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage .....	8	1
Placenta praevia .....	—	2
Retained placenta .....	5	5
Maternal distress .....	1	1
Miscarriage .....	3	2
Prolapse of cord .....	1	1
Lacerated perineum .....	68	28
Vaginal laceration .....	—	1
Rise of temperature .....	6	5
Fits .....	1	—
Albuminuria .....	5	2
Post partum haemorrhage .....	5	2
Varicose veins .....	1	—
Pain in leg .....	3	—
Inflamed veins .....	2	1
Swelling of leg .....	2	1
Pain in side .....	3	1
Haemorrhoids .....	1	—
Delivery .....	1	—
Spots .....	—	1
Discharge .....	1	—
Epilepsy .....	—	1
Collapse .....	1	—
Breast abscess .....	—	1
Chest condition .....	—	1
B.B.A.....	—	1
	<hr/> 159	<hr/> 91

In 74 instances the medical aid was for the infant :—

	<i>Municipal Midwives</i>	<i>District Nurses</i>
Congenital debility and prematurity.....	10	12
Inflamed or discharging eyes .....	14	2
Spina Bifida .....	1	2
Death of baby .....	1	—
Abnormality of infant.....	4	1
Stillbirth .....	—	1
Pemphigus .....	1	—
Injury to arm .....	1	—
Skin eruption .....	4	3
Secondary haemorrhage from cord .....	1	—
Vomiting blood .....	1	—
Vomiting food .....	1	—
Measles .....	1	—
Congenital heart .....	1	—
Chest condition .....	5	1
Jaundice .....	3	—
Passing blood .....	1	—
Collapse .....	2	—
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 22

The District Nurses also take all emergency cases, *i.e.*, cases where people have neglected to book anyone for their confinement.

The midwife is expected to render the account for her work before she leaves the case on the fourteenth day. She collects the fee and pays it to the Treasurer. If she remains unpaid at



the conclusion of her attendance, the card for the case is transferred to the Borough Treasurer's Department and the onus is then on that department to collect the fees.

The following is a statement of the fees:—

	£	s.	d.
Fees collected by midwives or paid at Health Department ...	1477	4	0
Fees collected by Borough Treasurer's Department .....	179	12	6
	£1656	16	6
Fees written off by the Committee	29	17	6
Amount outstanding .....	37	6	6

## 6. POST NATAL CLINIC.

This clinic was commenced on October 24th and is held in the Greenesfield Health Centre on Monday afternoon; until the end of the year 9 sessions were held and 27 mothers attended for the first time and made a total of 36 attendances.

The conditions noted were:—

Anaemia .....	7
Torn perineum .....	3
Uterine prolapse .....	4
Vaginal discharge .....	2
Cardiac disease .....	2
Tonsillitis .....	1
Bronchitis .....	1
Carious Teeth .....	13
Nil abnormal .....	1

The mothers will most probably take some time to get used to the idea of an examination after their confinement, but when they realise that much bad health can be prevented by timely treatment of certain defects, they will come as readily to this clinic as to the ante-natal clinic.

## 7. INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 133 deaths among infants under the age of one year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 66 per 1,000 live births. This is the lowest on record in the borough and shows a decrease of 11 per 1,000 from last year.

While it is satisfactory to be able to record such a substantial decrease in the total figure, it must be noted that just over fifty per cent of the deaths were in the neo-natal group. There were 67 deaths among infants under one month and among these 57

or 85% were due to premature birth, injury at birth and congenital conditions. Of the 67 deaths, 35 were due to premature birth, and of these 30 died in the first week of life. There is still a great deal of work to be done in the education of the mothers so that they will obtain adequate ante-natal care for themselves and profit by the advice which they are given.

As regards the deaths among children over one month, there were more deaths than last year from infectious diseases, as there were epidemics of both measles and whooping cough in the early months of the year.

It is disappointing to have to record a large number of deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia, 29 in all. Cases, which develop pneumonia, can now be nursed in the isolation hospital, but parents seem to be reluctant to take advantage of this service.

The following table gives the Infantile Mortality statistics for each ward:—

Ward.	Total No. of deaths Under 1 year	No. under 1 month.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
North	9	4	45
North East	10	4	67
North West	28	8	84
Central	9	3	56
East Central	20	11	77
South Central	4	4	35
West Central	11	9	67
East	19	12	68
South	6	2	34
West	17	10	76
	<u>133</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>66</u>

Infantile Mortality during the four quarters:—

	Total No. of Infant Deaths	Percentage
1st quarter .....	48	36.0
2nd „ .....	27	20.3
3rd „ .....	22	16.6
4th „ .....	36	17.1

# County Borough of Gateshead

## INFANTILE MORTALITY per 1,000 live births

### 1871-1938

#### AVERAGE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

1871-1880  
172

1881-1890  
161

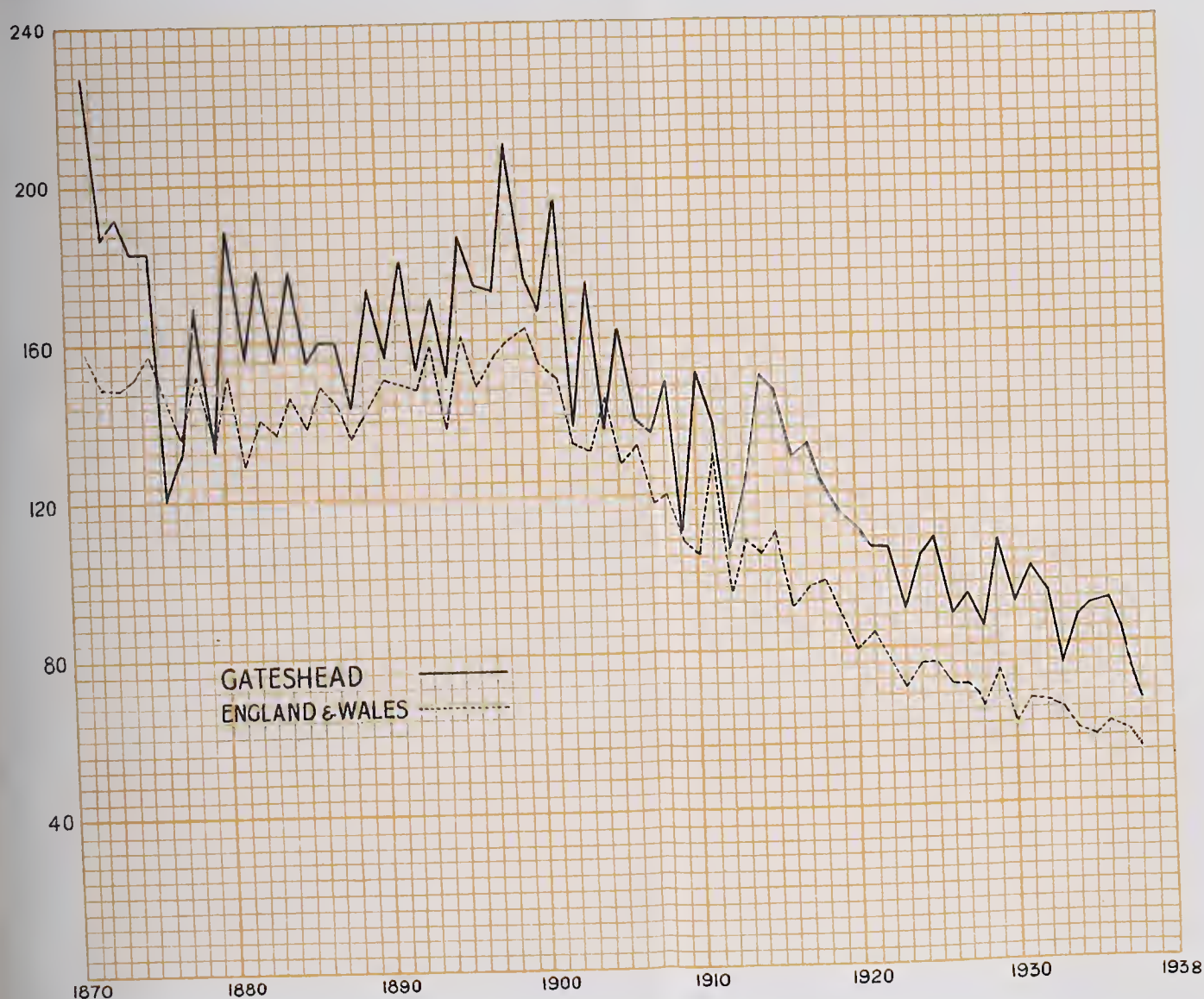
1891-1900  
174

1901-1910  
149

1911-1920  
127

1921-1930  
96

Rate per  
1,000 live  
births



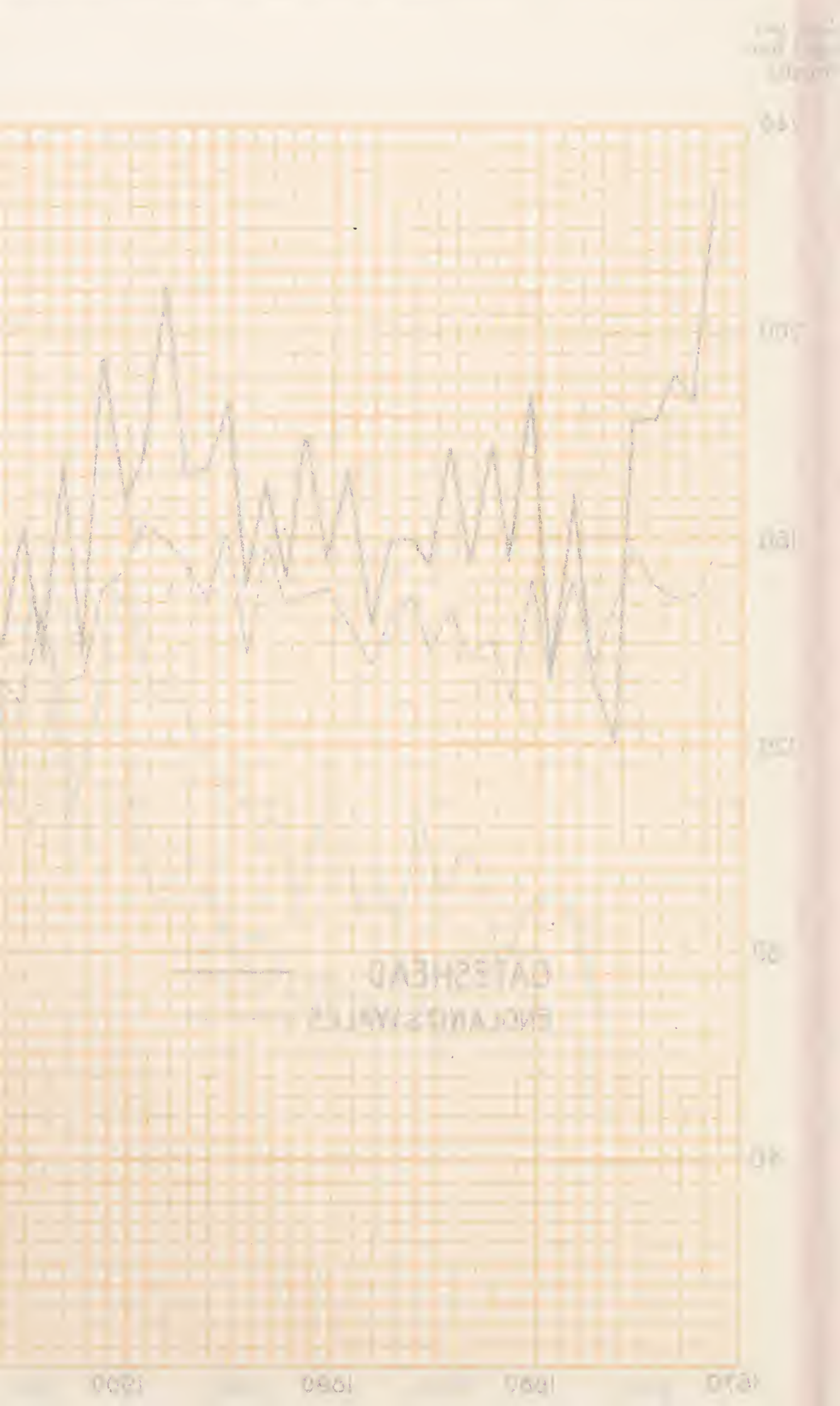


# INFANTILE MORTALITY per

1871-1938

AVERAGE INFANTILE MORTALITY

1871-1880	1881-1890	1891-1900	1901-1910	1911-1920	1921-1930	1931-1938
101	101	101	101	101	101	101



# INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under four weeks.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.		
All Causes	Certified .....	47	10	5	4	66	20	20	12	13	T. 131	M. 78	F. 53
	Uncertified	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	1	1
Smallpox .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken Pox .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	6	3	3
Scarlet Fever.....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	6	4	2
Diphtheria and Croup ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disease .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
Meningitis—Not Tuber-		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
culous .....		—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	1	2
Convulsions .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis .....		—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	2	8	4	4
Bronchitis .....		—	—	—	—	—	7	5	4	3	21	14	7
Pneumonia .....		—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis .....		—	1	1	—	2	4	5	1	1	13	8	5
Gastritis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets .....		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (overlying)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth .....		12	1	—	1	14	1	—	—	—	15	10	5
Atelectasis .....		1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Congenital Defects .....		4	3	—	—	7	2	3	—	—	12	9	3
Premature Birth .....		30	2	2	1	35	—	—	—	—	35	18	17
Atrophy, Debility and		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Marasmus .....		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes .....		1	2	1	1	5	1	—	1	2	9	5	4
TOTALS .....		48	10	5	4	67	20	21	12	13	133	79	54

## 8. CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The following summarises the work done at various centres during the year :—

Centre	No. of Sessions	First Visits of Infants 0-1 year	Re-visits of infants 0-1 year	First visits of children 1-5 years	Revisits of children 1-5 years
Greenesfield House ... ..	98	571	3690	407	3040
Bensham ... ..	97	382	3982	265	1738
Low Fell ... ..	83	229	3152	147	2114
Moore Street ... ..	47	232	2163	129	1384
Victoria Road ... ..	48	158	1268	113	1028
Wrekenton ... ..	26	41	455	36	586
	399	1613	14710	1097	9890

Centre	Total No. of attendances	Average Attendance at Drs. Session	Average Attendance at Nurses Session	Infant Examinations by Medical Officer	Average No. of Consultations per Session
Greenesfield House ... ..	7708	105.02	53.34	2528	52.66
Bensham ... ..	6367	68.49	62.73	1533	31.28
Low Fell ... ..	5642	94.4	36.17	1178	23.5
Moore Street ... ..	3908	83.14	—	1458	31.02
Victoria Street ... ..	2567	53.47	—	1093	22.77
Wrekenton ... ..	1118	43.38	—	420	16.15
	27310	77.61	53.8	8210	30.63



The following conditions were noted :—

Disease or Defect	CLINICS						Total
	Greensfield	Low Fell	Ben-sham	Moore Street	Wrek-enton	Vic-toria Rd	
CONGENITAL MALFORMATIONS.							
Phimosis .....	24	45	46	13	1	5	134
Umbilical Hernia .....	86	47	60	61	14	35	303
Heart .....	—	1	2	—	—	1	4
Sternomastoid Swelling .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Undescended Testicles .....	2	—	—	—	—	1	3
Hare Lip & Cleft Palate ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Inguinal hernia .....	1	—	4	1	1	—	7
Others .....	—	1	7	—	1	—	9
DIGESTIVE TRACT.							
Feeding Dyspepsia .....	25	60	16	13	3	15	132
Diarrhoea & Vomiting .....	43	6	17	48	3	22	139
Pyloric Stenosis .....	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Stomatitis .....	9	2	8	8	—	6	33
Vermes .....	61	15	10	35	12	6	139
Constipation .....	40	30	36	25	14	14	149
Diarrhoea .....	7	20	4	—	—	11	42
Tongue tied .....	8	6	6	2	—	—	22
Other .....	15	8	6	—	—	—	29
RESPIRATORY TRACT.							
Bronchitis .....	61	38	48	38	14	89	288
Pneumonia .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Other .....	2	2	4	—	—	—	8
DENTAL CARIES .....	44	6	15	11	7	17	100
Vaginal discharge .....	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
SKIN DISEASES.							
Infantile Eczema .....	8	6	16	5	4	4	43
Seborrhoeic Dermatitis .....	23	3	4	13	—	5	48
Impetigo .....	44	4	13	16	4	27	108
Scabies .....	16	1	2	4	1	3	27
Naevi .....	4	1	6	2	1	2	16
Urticaria .....	12	18	14	11	6	13	74
Minor injuries, etc. ....	24	—	—	7	4	5	40
Others.....	5	10	6	12	7	2	42
EYE DISEASES.							
Squint (for refraction).....	13	6	5	3	1	3	31
Squint (for observation) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Blepharitis .....	9	—	2	3	1	4	19
Conjunctivitis .....	13	4	13	9	2	5	46
Corneal Ulceration .....	1	—	1	—	—	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Others .....	5	2	9	2	1	2	21
EAR, NOSE & THROAT DISEASES							
Enlarged Tonsils & Adenoids	31	6	11	1	3	14	66
Enl. Neck Glands .....	5	3	9	4	1	3	25
Rhinitis .....	2	1	6	2	—	3	14
Otorrhoea .....	35	—	11	11	3	23	83
Otitis Media .....	8	—	5	5	—	—	18
Others .....	3	2	3	3	2	1	14
RICKETS.							
Mild .....	50	12	25	27	3	19	136
Severe .....	3	1	3	1	2	1	11
OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS.							
Anaemia .....	1	2	3	1	1	1	9
Whooping Cough .....	—	1	1	—	1	1	4
Enuresis .....	4	—	1	—	—	—	5
Measles .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Rheumatism .....	1	—	2	—	—	—	3

The attendances at the welfare centres have increased considerably during the year. The Victoria Road Centre, which is in the midst of a re-housing area for slum-clearance, is continuing to make good progress and supplies a very urgent need in the

area. An extra session on a Friday morning was commenced at the Low Fell Centre in May. This has had the effect of reducing the size of the Wednesday afternoon clinic, which was very much overcrowded.

The senior school girls, who have been attending at the Moore Street Infant Welfare Centre for instruction in Mothercraft, have been very enthusiastic about this work and it was felt that it was worth extending this branch of the service, so that now girls attend from two schools in the town.

As it was felt that this might overcrowd the Moore Street Centre, they now attend at the new Health Centre at Greenesfield House.

A knitting competition was held in December at the Greenesfield Health Centre, when Mrs. James Grant kindly presented the prizes.

### **Voluntary Workers.**

As in previous years the voluntary workers have rendered great assistance at all the centres. Their services are very much appreciated. These ladies give up a great deal of their time to the work and attend regularly every week or fortnight as they arrange among themselves. Some of them make tea for the mothers, whilst others assist with the clerical work. They also interest the mothers in sewing and knitting for their children and give a good deal of helpful instruction to these mothers.

## **9. THE NURSERY SCHOOL.**

The Nursery School at Bensham Settlement, which is run by a voluntary association has 100 children on the register. The addition which was built to the Nursery School was opened during the early part of 1938, hence the increase in numbers from last year. The school has its own medical officer, who examines the children periodically. The cards from these inspections are sent to the health department when the child is five years old and are then sent on to the school at which the child attends; thus a continuous record is kept.

Under certain very exceptional circumstances a few children are kept in the nursery school who are of school age, but only after examination by one of the staff of the health department.

The children are very well cared for, getting regular meals and regular rest periods. Much of their play is out of doors, when the weather permits. These schools do a great deal of good and the work might be usefully extended in this Borough, so that the children being moved from slum clearance areas to the new estates might be able to attend a nursery school incorporated in the new estate.

## 10. SUPPLY OF DRIED MILK AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS.

During the year dried milk and other foodstuffs have been supplied at all the welfare centres.

The sub-committee of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee continues to meet regularly to investigate the applications for assisted milk supply, and careful consideration is given to the circumstances of each case.

During the year 98,794 packets of dried milk were distributed, 12,651 being at cost price and 86,143 packets at prices below cost price according to the family income.

In addition, Virol, Maltoline, etc. was supplied at cost price. A table is set out below showing the amounts of each article sold.

Receipts amounted to £3,964 15s. 0d. against a cost of £6,656 12s. 2½d.

### SALE of 1 lb. Packets of Dried Milk and of other Foodstuffs at Welfare Centres.

	Greenes- field	Bensham	Sunder- land Road	Low Fell	Wrek- enton	Victoria Road	Total
1/4	3131	3089	1750	2738	428	329	11465
1/3	484	300	114	169	9	110	1186
10d.	2410	1417	1233	773	653	517	7003
9d.	919	207	299	185	103	123	1836
7d.	31268	5676	6628	3003	1088	7585	55248
6d.	14948	1209	2839	746	217	2097	22056
	53160	11898	12863	7614	2498	10761	98794
½ lb. Virol— 9d.	4543	2086	985	1845	291	570	10320
½ lb. Malto- line 6d.	1292	120	149	148	61	144	1914
½ lb. Numol 7d	2514	704	358	1044	187	175	4982
1 lb. Malt & Oil 6½d	428	24	42	118	16	82	710
1 lb. Malt Ext. 6d.	9	—	—	4	—	—	13
½ lb. Secway 6d.	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
1 lb. Almata 6d.	15	—	—	—	7	5	27
½ lb. Malted Milk 9d	60	1	—	—	2	—	63
	8865	2935	1534	3159	564	976	18033



## 11. INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

Public Health Act, 1936, Secs. 206-220.

On 1st January, 1938, there were 6 children registered, three males and three females. During the year three additions were made to the register and three children removed from the district, and at the end of the year there were still 6 children on the register, three males and three females.

During the year one foster parent removed out of the town without notifying the local authority of the change of address. Proceedings were taken against this foster parent in the police court and a fine was imposed. The N.S.P.C.C. Inspector works in close co-operation with the officials in the various branches of this department.

## 12. OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There were 8 cases notified during the year, and none were considered sufficiently bad to require resident hospital treatment. One case was treated as an out-patient at the Eye Infirmary and the District Nursing Association carried out the home treatment of this case. All the other cases were treated at home by the health visitors. The vision was unimpaired in all cases.

## 13. ULTRA VIOLET RAY THERAPY.

After the new health centre was opened in April, the sunray treatment was commenced for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years.

The following is a summary of the numbers who have attended and of results of treatment so far as they could be ascertained :—

EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

REASON FOR TREATMENT	No. Treated	RESULT			
		Improved	Stationary	Worse	Lapsed
Anaemia .....	40	19	8	1	12
General Debility .....	41	23	9	3	6
Neuralgia .....	3	2	1	—	—
	84	44	18	4	18

## CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS.

REASON FOR TREATMENT	No. Treated	RESULT.			
		Improved	Stationary	Worse	Lapsed
Rickets .....	78	48	17	6	7
General debility and underweight .....	34	17	9	3	5
Bronchitis .....	10	6	2	1	1
Anorexia .....	9	6	3	—	—
Sub-normal nutrition .....	29	23	5	—	1
Poor muscular development .....	1	1	—	—	—
Anaemia .....	9	6	3	—	—
Convalescent after infectious disease ...	6	2	3	—	1
Losing Weight .....	31	26	5	—	—
Not gaining Weight .....	13	10	1	1	1
Laryngitis .....	1	1	—	—	—
Pink Disease .....	2	1	1	—	—
Septic lesions.....	1	—	—	1	—
Adenitis .....	2	—	2	—	—
	226	147	51	12	16

It will be noted that quite a number of the patients lapsed from treatment; these were followed up by the health visitors but in some cases the mothers refused to attend for further treatment for themselves or their children, as the treatment did not appear to be suiting them.

#### 14. IMMUNISATION.

During the year a clinic has been held on Thursday afternoon at the Greenesfield Health Centre, when children were immunised against Diphtheria.

In all, 148 immunisations were performed, including 73 nursery school children.

#### 15. HOSPITAL TREATMENT FOR AILING CHILDREN.

Children found at the Infant Welfare Centres to be suffering from defects are sent to :—

- (a) The Children's Hospital, Gateshead.
- (b) The Babies' Hospital, Newcastle.
- (c) The Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle.

204 children were referred to the Children's Hospital, Gateshead, for the following reasons :—

Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids .....	26
Phimosis .....	92
Umbilical or inguinal hernia .....	33
Otitis Media .....	9
Tongue tied .....	13
For sun-ray treatment .....	18
Enlarged cervical glands .....	3
Miscellaneous .....	10

2 babies were sent to the Babies' Hospital for operations, both suffering from pyloric stenosis.

During the year 29 Gateshead infants were admitted to this hospital, 5 of them being accompanied by the mother.

31 children were sent to the Royal Victoria Infirmary for the following reasons :—

Naevi .....	16
Orthopaedic Cases .....	5
Meibomian Cyst .....	1
Conjunctivitis .....	9

During the year the children attending the welfare centres were treated under the existing arrangements for school children. Under this scheme the following cases have been treated :—

Dental Cases .....	52
Refractions .....	51

192 children were treated for minor ailments and made 988 attendances. The conditions treated were :—

Scabies .....	20
Impetigo .....	39
Septic Sores .....	20
Other Skin Conditions .....	53
Conjunctivitis .....	8
Blepharitis .....	1
Keratitis .....	
and Corneal Opacities .....	1
Other Eye Conditions .....	6
Otorrhoea .....	16
Other Ear Conditions .....	2
Other diseases and defects.....	26

### Orthopaedic Cases.

The child who was admitted to the Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital School during 1937 was discharged in September. There are now no children in the home under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme. The joint scheme for orthopaedic work will be commenced shortly.

## 16. DENTAL TREATMENT OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS.

Dental treatment was commenced in November, when the third dentist was appointed to the staff. The following is a summary of the work done :—

	<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Children</i>
No. Inspected .....	29	60
No. Treated .....	5	52
No. Extractions (Local) ...	27	41
No. Extractions (General)	30	150
No. Fillings .....	2	—
No. Other Operations .....	2	—

This service is very much appreciated by the mothers and is filling a long felt want in the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

MARGARET B. HERBST, M.D., B.Hy., D.P.H.,  
*Deputy Medical Officer of Health.*



## D. SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

There are 32 primary schools and one secondary school within the Borough, providing 25,902 and 650 school places respectively, while the Joicey Road Open Air School, opened in 1937, provides 150 places.

The number of elementary children on the rolls in 1938 was 18,062, and of secondary pupils 598, while the average number in attendance was 16,648 elementary and 575 secondary children. A new girls' Junior Instruction Centre was opened at Bloomfield during the year.

The two junior instruction centres which are covered by the arrangements for school medical service have an average daily attendance of 130 males and 130 females. The individual juveniles in attendance are constantly changing.

## E. ORTHOPAEDIC SCHEME.

Various difficulties have interfered with the inception of the Gateshead Orthopaedic Scheme during 1938, but it is hoped that the scheme will be in operation in 1939. It is proposed that the Orthopaedic Surgeon may be Mr. K. Stanger and that he will have the assistance of an orthopaedic masseuse and a clerk in carrying out the orthopaedic care, which will be given in a room in the new Greenesfield Health Centre, and also in the medical inspection room of the new Open Air School. The hospital accommodation for Gateshead cases will be provided by arrangement with the W. J. Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital School, Gosforth.

## F. NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

I am indebted to Mr. A. Morris, Secretary to Gateshead National Health Insurance Committee for the following information relative to the year ended 31/10/38.

There were 51,723 persons on the Index Register, an increase of 3,823 on the previous year.

The numbers on the doctors' lists for the last ten years were as follows:—

1929 .....	45,797	1934.....	44,372
1930 .....	45,884	1935.....	42,750
1931 .....	46,135	1936.....	44,289
1932 .....	46,785	1937.....	45,292
1933 .....	47,075	1938.....	47,169

There were 77 doctors under agreement with the Committee, of whom 30 have more than 500 persons on their lists. There are likewise 40 firms of druggists under agreement to supply drugs. The frequency of prescribing in 1937 was 5·7 per insured person, and the average cost of this 45·7 pence.

### G. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL SERVICE.

The work done by these officers in 1938 was as follows :—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Received Medical and Outdoor Relief.....	1754	2661	1118	5533
Received Medical Relief only .....	459	1014	1460	2933
	2213	3675	2578	8466

This service has grown enormously within the last 8 years as shown by the table below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Persons relieved</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Persons relieved</i>
1938	8466	1934	8941
1937	8783	1933	7492
1936	9193	1932	5464
1935	8035	1931	4016

In-patient treatment is given principally in the medical wards of High Teams Institution or in a few cases for urgent operation, at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle. Certain other cases requiring specialist surgery are dealt with at Newcastle General Hospital.

### H. GATESHEAD DISPENSARY.

This institution, situated in West Street, is provided by voluntary subscription for the poor of the town, whom it has served since 1832. There are two medical officers employed full time in serving the medical needs of the sick poor. Patients are seen at the dispensary and in their homes, and a large number of patients who would otherwise receive no medical attention are dealt with.

I am indebted to Dr. J. C. Hall, Resident Medical Officer, for the information in respect of 1938. There were 2,243 letter patients (1,057 home patients and 1,186 out-patients) and 17,347 casual patients, including 507 accident cases, a grand total of 19,590 patients treated, as compared with 22,513 last year.

The letter cases are sent by subscribers to the number of 4 per subscription of one guinea, while casuals are charged a fee of 3d. per attendance (inclusive of medicine and dressings). The types of patient dealt with are children with acute illness and women with acute and chronic disease.

The Public Assistance Committee gave a donation of £20 in 1938.

Harmonious relations are maintained between the dispensary staff and the staff of the health department.

## **I. GATESHEAD PUBLIC MEDICAL SERVICE.**

Gateshead has been served since 1925 by a Public Medical Service, established by the doctors of the town for the dependants of insured persons and others unable to pay the usual fees of medical practice. 32 practitioners of the area are partners in the scheme, the administrative details of which are in the hands of the Secretary, Mr. John Mitchell, to whom I am indebted for this account.

The terms for subscribers are 7d. per week per adult with an additional 1d. for each child up to a maximum of 10d., and an additional 4d. per week for each additional adult over the age of 16 years. If children alone are paid for, the rates are 5d., 6d. and 7d. per week according to whether one, two or three or more children are covered by the scheme.

Any subscriber is quite free to choose his doctor and may change him at any time by notifying the Central Office at 9, Walker Terrace.

Subscribers are entitled to ordinary medical general practitioner treatment (including drugs), but the service does not cover obstetrical help or specialist assistance of any kind, nor does it extend to certification or the provision of tonic foodstuffs.

At the end of the year, 15,500 Gateshead persons were covered by the scheme.

During the year the service was extended to the District of Dunston in the Whickham Urban District.



## J. HOME NURSING SERVICE.

The Gateshead District Nursing Association employs 1 superintendent nurse, 1 assistant superintendent nurse, 12 nurses and 5 nurse midwives, all of whom are state registered, and live in the Association's Nurses' Home, Coatsworth Road, Gateshead. This home was extended in 1937 so as to provide living quarters for the midwives and it also includes premises for use as an ante-natal clinic.

The 5 nurse midwives employed form part of the local authority's provision of midwives under the Act of 1936.

During the year the district nurse midwives attended altogether 536 cases, paying 10,581 visits. Further information as to the work of the Nursing Association's midwives is contained in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of this report.

The home nursing service, maintained for medical and surgical nursing in the home, takes up the time of the 12 nurses, and I am indebted to Mr. C. D. Pike, Honorary Secretary of the Association, for the following information in regard to the year 1938.

Altogether 1,524 cases were nursed, entailing 41,951 visits to the homes of the sick. Of the cases attended at home, 861 were referred by private practitioners, 371 by friends of patients, 60 by district medical officers and 125 by dispensary doctors. Nursing appliances were loaned to 368 cases.

At the Gateshead Dispensary the staff of the Association administered 8,268 treatments. Included in the above are 3,189 visits to nurse 144 cases of notifiable disease under treatment at home by the family practitioners. This figure includes 1,377 visits to 29 tuberculous patients, 1,261 visits to 77 pneumonia cases, 24 to 2 patients with erysipelas and 68 to 1 case of ophthalmia neonatorum and 20 to 3 cases of pemphigus neonatorum.

The Association provides a Home Nursing Provident Scheme, whereby Borough residents, unable to pay for the services of a private nurse, contribute small weekly donations to the Association, in return for which the Association provides a visiting

nurse when required by the practitioner in attendance on an illness. There are roughly 14,000 subscribers. Non-subscribers are charged 1/6d. per visit of a nurse. The Public Assistance Committee gives a donation of £100 per annum.

The visits paid to sick persons were classified as follows :—

Provident members .....	21,749
Necessitous cases (Free) .....	13,070
Paying Patients .....	1,313
Dispensary Patients .....	3,404
Public Assistance Cases .....	2,415

The most harmonious relations are maintained between the Gateshead District Nursing Association and the Health Services of the Council. The officials concerned have found the Secretary and Matron of the District Nursing Association to be ever ready to co-operate in attention to the sick of the town.

## K. AMBULANCE PROVISION.

For infectious cases, the town provides two ambulances. The older vehicle, a Ford, is mainly used for scarlet fever, while the other, a Morris 24 h.p. with a special body, is reserved for the removal of other cases, including tuberculosis. The ambulances made 724 runs, removing 665 patients to Sheriff Hill Hospital, 36 to Whinney House, 3 to Barrasford, 5 to Stanhope, 15 to Wolsingham and 8 to other institutions.

Pending the extension of the fever hospital, the Morris Ambulance is housed in a garage at Bloomfield House, which is leased from the Education Committee and the Ford Ambulance is kept at Greenesfield House.

The Public Assistance Institution is served by a Morris Ambulance of the modern type.

The Gateshead Police have an ambulance reserved mainly for street accidents and illnesses and there is a utility van also available for use as an ambulance.

The Public Assistance ambulance is not available for members of the public for transportation of the sick to other hospitals other than the High Teams Institution. The ambulance under the control of the Chief Constable is utilised on a customer basis by public works in the area or adjacent thereto.

A colliery ambulance, provided by a firm outside the Borough, is available for the employees of a pit situated within the Borough in case of accident, while a large private firm within the Borough provides for its injured employees and also ambulance transport for sick employees from their homes to hospital if necessary.

There are three private firms providing ambulance transport for Borough patients at definite charges. One of these firms runs a provident scheme.

When the hospital accommodation envisaged elsewhere in this report, has been provided, it will be possible to centralise the ambulance provision of the Local Authority.

## L. LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Public Health Department provides within the Tuberculosis Dispensary building, a laboratory, with incubator, microscope, centrifuge, etc., for the carrying out of the routine bacteriological tests associated with health administration. The Tuberculosis Clerk devotes part of his time to assistance in the laboratory.

The following is a summary of the valuable work performed in the public health laboratory in 1938 :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Swabs for diphtheria bacilli .....	1033	2876	3909
Swabs for streptococci .....	1	—	1
Sputa for tubercle bacilli.....	148	442	590
Cerebro-spinal fluids for organisms .....	2	8	10
Blood for agglutination tests .....	2	3	5
Smears for gonococci .....	2	62	62
Sputa for pneumococci .....	—	—	—
Pus for organisms .....	—	—	1
Urine for microscope examination .....	—	—	14
Miscellaneous.....	—	—	1
	Total	...	... 4593

Informal tests by the Gerber centrifugal process were made by the Sanitary Inspector of the fat content of 58 samples of milk, of which 2 were found to be deficient and thereafter formal samples were taken.

The more intricate analytical and bacteriological tests are carried out on a customer basis by the public analyst and by the Durham University College of Medicine Bacteriological Laboratory,



Newcastle. The work of the former is included under the head of this report devoted to the purity of water, milk and foodstuffs, while during 1938 the College of Medicine Laboratory carried out the following bacteriological and pathological tests:—

(a) **Bacteriological Examination of milk.**

T.T. milk .....	6
Accredited milk .....	14
Pasteurised milk .....	14
Ordinary milk .....	6
	<hr/>
	40
(b) Faeces Culture .....	10
(c) Agglutination tests.....	10
(d) Suspected Foodstuffs .....	1
(e) Virulence tests of swabs .....	15
(f) Milk for tuberculosis (inoculation tests) .....	6
(g) Examinations of water .....	35
(h) Wassermann and Kahn tests.....	4
(i) Tissue—carcinoma.....	2
	<hr/>
	123

The Wassermann tests from the Joint Venereal Diseases Clinic were carried out at the College Laboratory.

## M. MENTAL DEFICIENCY ADMINISTRATION.

The number of mental defectives ascertained to be subject to be dealt with at the end of the year was 287, made up of 153 males and 134 females.

These have been dealt with as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
(1) In Institutions.			
(a) Under order .....	51	50	101
(b) Maintained by local authority ...	6	8	14
(c) Maintained by parents .....	2	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	59	59	118
(2) On licence from institution .....	2	—	2
(3) Under guardianship .....	6	7	13
(4) In places of safety .....	—	—	—
(5) Under statutory supervision .....	74	56	130
(6) In Public Assistance Institution (Uncertified) .....	12	12	24
(7) Not yet dealt with .....	7	10	17
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	160	144	304

The 118 cases in institutions are disposed as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Monkton Hall, Jarrow.....	8	—	8
Shotley Bridge Colony.....	33	24	57
Durran Hill House, Carlisle .....	—	5	5
Public Assistance Institution, Gateshead	4	14	18
Stoke Park Colony ... ..	2	4	6
Royal Albert Institution, Lancaster	8	7	15
Bow Villa, Morpeth .....	—	1	1
Field Heath House, Middlesex .....	—	1	1
St. Raphael's Colony Barvin Park.....	1	—	1
Prudhoe Hall Colony .....	—	1	1
Hortham Colony, Bristol.....	—	1	1
St. Joseph's Home, Sheffield .....	—	2	2
Private Institutions .....	—	1	1
Bedford Court, Worcester .....	1	—	1
	57	61	118

A further six defectives belonging to Gateshead are maintained by the State, 2 males and 3 females being maintained in Rampton Institution and 1 male in Mosside Institution, Liverpool.

## N. HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROPAGANDA.

A joint propaganda committee, composed of members of the Health Committee and of the National Health Insurance Committee with co-opted members, continued to carry out the local health propaganda, the Town Council giving the annual donation of £20 towards the work.

Mr. A. Morris, Clerk to the Gateshead Insurance Committee, acts as secretary.

During 1938 two film lectures were given to adolescents of either sex by Dr. T. Drummond Shields, under the auspices of the British Social Hygiene Council. These were entitled respectively "From Girlhood to Womanhood" and "Manhood in the Making".

Health Sunday was held on the 10th July and the Gateshead Brotherhood had a special service, addressed by Dr. W. J. Whitley, Medical Officer of Health of Northumberland County, while a health lecture with a film display was given at the Unemployed Welfare Club by Dr. R. W. Smallwood.

Propaganda in regard to the care of the teeth was also carried out through the school dental service.

In addition to the foregoing lectures, members of the staff of the health department have given health talks to various social organisations.

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### **III. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

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## A. WATER SUPPLY.

The Town Water Supply is obtained from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. It is constant, and is derived from upland sources at Catcleugh, Colt Crag, East and West Hallington, Whittle Dene and Little Swinburne, where the Company have large reservoirs, covering 874 acres, with catchment areas of 30,000 acres. Filtering and chlorination plants are situated at Whittle Dene and Throckley, and their combined capacity output is about 13,000,000 gallons per day, serving an area of 150 square miles and 750,000 people.

The supply to the Borough flows partly by gravitation to the low lying parts of the town and also to a pumping station in Askew Road, whence it is forced to reservoirs at Cair Hill and Sheriff Hill at heights of 450 and 520 feet above the datum line. Thence the water flows to all other parts of the town.

These three distinct methods of supply are hereafter referred to as the "Gravitation Supply", the "Cair Hill Supply" and the "Beacon Lough" Supply. By all these methods the Borough has available a constant supply of water under sufficient pressure, in every part of the town. Normally samples of the water are taken every month without any attempt at distinguishing the three methods of supply, but certain circumstances arose in August of 1938, which necessitated much more frequent sampling of the public water. To recount the matter in its logical order, the monthly statements of "Water in Store" supplied by the Water Company in 1938 are given below:—

January	...	...	...	5002	million	gallons
February	...	...	...	5112	„	„
March	...	...	...	4882	„	„
April	...	...	...	4638	„	„
May	...	...	...	4096	„	„
June	...	...	...	3676	„	„
July	...	...	...	3711	„	„
August	...	...	...	3745	„	„
September	...	...	...	3345	„	„
October	...	...	...	3021	„	„
November	...	...	...	3822	„	„
December	...	...	...	4270	„	„

showing a variation between February and October of 2091, million gallons.

On the 10th August, 1938, the Water Company notified the Town Council, in accordance with the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company Act of 1876, that owing to the shortage of water in store and the very low rainfall during the first half of the year it was necessary to pump water from the River Tyne at Wylam, to be used for domestic purposes. The Water Company stated that it had been pumped from the river prior to this time for trade purposes.

On account of the fact that river water is always suspect, arrangements were made to take samples more regularly for bacteriological and also for chemical analysis. The results of the tests are given in the attached table and it will be seen that considerable cause for anxiety arose in September and the early part of October, in the form of the presence of B.Coli and in the form of high low-temperature counts. Peculiarly enough, upon comparison with the bacteriological results obtained by the City of Newcastle on Tyne, which has the same water supply, it would appear that the cause of the poor Gateshead results was to be found in Gateshead.

It was found that the Carr Hill reservoir was silted up and this was cleaned out by the Water Company with an immediate improvement, but unfortunately the improvement did not persist. Thereafter bad results were obtained from the Beacon Lough supply and the Water Company officials themselves were rather at a loss to account for the high low-temperature counts.

Close contact was maintained throughout the months of September, October, November and December with the Water Company Officials and also with the Ministry of Health. Finally after a second cleansing of the Carr Hill Reservoir and also of the Beacon Lough Reservoir the trouble seemed to have disappeared. At the same time the Water Company installed a combined chlorination-ammoniation plant, with a view to more effective purification of the water.

It is gratifying to record that early in 1939 the matter had been resolved to the satisfaction of everyone and that the Water Company officials have decided to clean out the two reservoirs at more frequent intervals to avoid repetition of the occurrence.

The water supply throughout this time had been above suspicion in connection with any outbreak of infectious diseases, and the troubles were peculiar to Gateshead.

I am of the opinion that both the reservoirs are now much too near centres of population, with the result that a good deal of dust, soot and other domestic impurities are being deposited on the unprotected surface of the water in these reservoirs. This change is of course due to the outward displacement of the population of the Borough in the new housing schemes, which surround Carr Hill reservoir and are now in close proximity to the Beacon Lough reservoir. The presence of high B.Coli content in the water samples would seem to indicate pollution by way of birds, chiefly of the seagull variety.

The results of chemical analysis of the samples are also tabulated in this report.



## TOWN WATER SUPPLY.

### Results of the Bacteriological Tests.

TESTS : (1) Coli-aerogenes test ("Presumptive")  
 (2) Total colonies developing on Agar at 37°C (48 hours incubation)  
 (3) Total colonies developing on Agar at 20°—22°C (3 days incubation)  
 (4) Streptococci Test.

1938	Source	RESULTS OF TESTS				Conclusion from Tests
		1	2	3	4	
		B. Coli per 100 ml.	Per ml.	Per ml.	Positive or Negative	Satis. : S. Unsatis. : N.S.
1. 5 January	G.	0	22	70	N	S.
2. 24 "	B.L.	0	53	2175	N	See Note (A)
3. 3 February	G.	1	77	4125	N	"
4. 8 March	B.L.	0	21	20000	N	"
5. 7 April	B.L.	0	13	1800	N	"
6. 2 May	C.H.	1	10	25	N	S.
7. 12 "	G.	0	47	360	P	N.S. Note (B)
8. 18 "	G.	1	70	1650	N	N.S. " (B)
9. 8 June	C.H.	0	33	585	N	S.
10. 10 "	G.	0	15	90	N	S.
11. 5 July	G.	13	22	195	N	N.S. Note (C)
12. 13 "	G.	1	10	50	N	S.
13. 5 August	C.H.	1	14	160	N	S.
14. 31 "	G.	0	20	135	N	S.
15. 19 September	B.L.	8	78	435	N	N.S. Note (D)
16. 21 "	C.H.	5	76	235	N	N.S.
17. 23 "	G.	0	12	425	N	S.
18. 30 "	C.H.	25	48	270	N	N.S. Note (E)
19. 6 October	G.	11	10	50	N	N.S. Note (F)
20. 6 "	C.H.	11	15	150	N	N.S. Note (F)
21. 6 "	G.	0	11	45	N	"
22. 13 "	B.L.	1	19	85	N	S. Note (G)
23. 13 "	C.H.	1	10	25	N	S. "
24. 13 "	G.	0	36	130	N	S.
25. 20 "	C.H.	0	24	430	N	S.
26. 27 "	G.	1	20	640	N	S.
27. 2 November	B.L.	0	18	90	N	S. Note
28. 10 "	C.H.	1	17	6150	N	N.S. " (H)
29. 22 "	C.H.	1	26	1325	N	N.S. " (I)
30. 28 "	B.L.	0	16	100	N	S.
31. 8 December	C.H.	8	32	5650	N	N.S. " (J)
32. 13 "	B.L.	0	33	210	N	S.
33. 16 "	C.H.	1	13	520	N	F.S.
34. 16 "	B.L.	1	12	8350	N	N.S. Note (K)

#### Examination of Sludge from Service Reservoir (Carr Hill).

35. 11 October	1800	7300	See Note (G)
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#### Source of Supply—

Carr Hill Service Reservoir — C.H.  
 Beacon Lough ..... — B.L.  
 Gravitation Main ..... — G.

- 24-1-38 Note A. "The count at 22°C is higher than usual and may be accounted for by conditions weather."
- 12-5-38 Note B. "This is not a good sample. Total counts are too high, and Streptococci are present in 10 c.c."
- 18-5-38 Note B. "A sample 6 days later from same source. No Streptococci, but increased total counts."
- 5-7-38 Note C. "Definite evidence of faecal contamination with presumptive coli of 13 per 100 c.c."
- 19-9-38 Note D. "Presumptive Coli count of 8. The count of 22° is rather high." River water from 17th August, 1938, to augment supply.
- 30-9-38 Note E. "This is a bad sample with 25 presumptive coli per 100 ml."
- 6-10-38 Note F. "Two samples not satisfactory. Presumptive coli count of 11 (true B. Coli)."
- 11-10-38 Note G. Following upon the above samples (D.E.F.) the large service reservoir at Carr Hill was emptied for cleansing. Opportunity was taken to have a sample of the sludge examined. "The presumptive coli count is extremely high. Organisms of both the B. Coli and the B. Aerogenes types were present in all dilutions up to .001 c.c." The cleansing appeared to have good results as the four following samples were satisfactory.
- 10-11-38 Note H. Total organisms at 22°C very high—615 per ml.
- 22-11-38 Note I. Total organisms at 22°C still high—1325 per ml.
- 8-12-38 Note J. Presumptive Coli 8, and total count at 22° very high—5650 per ml.
- 16-12-38 Note K. Very high count at 22°C—8350 per ml.

**WATER SUPPLY.**  
**CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST.**  
**Results expressed in parts per 100,000.**

	MONTHLY SAMPLES					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Total solid matters in solution	31.60	19.00	17.60	14.00	11.600	12.80
2. Chlorine (as Chlorides) .....	1.349	0.923	1.852	1.065	0.852	0.923
3. Ammonia .....	0.006	0.005	0.004	0.003	0.005	0.004
4. Albuminoid Ammonia .....	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.003	0.007	0.006
5. Nitrogen (as Nitrates) .....	0.027	0.013	0.020	0.013	0.023	0.013
6. Oxygen absorbed (15 mins.).....	0.049	0.139	0.119	0.129	0.131	0.120
7.       "       "       (4 hours) .....	0.091	0.226	0.208	0.193	0.250	0.201
8. Lead and other Poisonous metals	none	none	none	none	none	none
9. Hardness before boiling .....	23.1°	15.3°	13.5°	13.6°	9.5°	7.6°
10. Hardness after boiling one hour	15.5°	6.7°	4.4°	7.4°	2.8°	5.6°
11. Appearance in 2 foot tube .....	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear
12. Smell when warmed .....	none	none	none	none	none	none
13. Microscopical examination of sediment .....	S.	S.	S.	S.	S.	S.
Source .....	G.	G.	BL.	BL.	CH.	G.

	MONTHLY SAMPLES						
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. Total solid matters in solution	14.00	13.40	13.80	15.00	14.00	17.60	21.60
2. Chlorine (as Chlorides) .....	0.923	1.065	1.278	1.030	1.065	1.278	1.136
3. Ammonia .....	0.004	0.005	0.003	0.006	0.009	0.007	0.003
4. Albuminoid Ammonia .....	0.007	0.010	0.006	0.008	0.008	0.007	0.007
5. Nitrogen (as Nitrates) .....	0.027	0.020	0.023	0.020	0.027	0.033	0.023
6. Oxygen absorbed (15 mins.).....	0.118	0.080	0.136	0.100	0.138	0.149	0.084
7.       "       "       (4 hours) .....	0.217	0.190	0.029	0.279	0.242	0.272	0.173
8. Lead and other Poisonous metals	none	none	none	none	none	none	none
9. Hardness before boiling .....	9.3°	8.4°	8.8°	9.5°	8.1°	10.2°	16.7°
10. Hardness after boiling one hour	5.1°	7.0°	4.9°	2.4°	4.3°	6.4°	5.4°
11. Appearance in 2 foot tube .....	clear	see note	clear	clear	clear	clear	clear
12. Smell when warmed.....	none	none	none	none	none	none	none
13. Microscopical examination of sediment .....	S.	S.	S.	S.	see note	S.	S.
Source .....	CH.	CH.	CH.	G.	BL.	CH.	BL.

**Sample No. 8.**—The appearance in two foot tubes was greenish yellow and slightly turbid. There is an unexpected increase in the chlorine and ammonia, and a sudden rise in albuminoid ammonia.

**Sample No. 11.**—There was more deposit of sediment than usual, dark brown and consisting largely of microscopic life.

**Source of Supply.** Carr Hill Service Reservoir ..... — C.H.  
Beacon Lough Service Reservoir — B.L.  
Gravitation Main ..... — G.

## **B. SEWERAGE, DRAINAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

All the dwelling houses of the Borough are now served by water closets, which drain into the public sewers. These sewers, of which there are 30, include 18 main sewers draining into the river at various points.

No new sewer was laid down during the year. Continuous extension of the sewerage system continues in the areas of new housing development.

## **C. RIVER POLLUTION.**

Nothing has been done, since the publication of the report on pollution of the River Tyne, to improve matters, nor does it seem that any steps will be taken in the near future to effect any difference in the very highly polluted state of the river.

### **Friars' Goose Sewer Outlet.**

No further complaint was received by this department during 1938 regarding the nuisance at the Friar's Goose Sewer outlet. The problem of this nuisance must be dealt with in the larger problem of the pollution of the Tyne itself.

## **D. PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

The work of public cleansing was carried out during the year and no complaint was received in connection with the collection of refuse.

No further trouble arose in connection with the tips in the Sheriff Hill district, as filling of these was actively pursued during the winter months, with the intention of tipping in the remoter parts during the summer.

Some prevalence of flies was noted in the Farnacres Tipping Ground but after inspection of the tip it would appear that the flies came from the polluted bed of a small stream adjacent.

I am indebted to Mr. R. H. Storer, F.Inst.P.C., Cleansing Superintendent, for a summary of the year's work.



## “ Collection of House and Shop Refuse.

### Details of Receptacles.

No. of Ashbins and Dry Boxes .....	34751
No. of Box Closets .....	41
No. of Dry Ashpits .....	40

It is again pleasing to report that the number of Dry-boxes has been further reduced by 35 during the past year, from 370 to 335, and portable standard bins substituted. This policy will be pursued until the whole of these boxes are abolished, which can only be accomplished by the co-operation of the owners, many of whom are not favourably disposed to make this conversion, as they cannot be enforced to convert these receptacles.

### Collection.

Ashbins and Dry-boxes are emptied weekly. In certain tenemented properties in the older portion of the town a collection is carried out daily. while in one or two small areas, it is found necessary to give a twice weekly collection during winter months. As far as practicable, all owners are required to supply a separate bin for each tenant and in this way it is possible to hold the tenant responsible for the class of refuse deposited therein.

The total number of calls for ashbins and boxes at all classes of premises for refuse during the year was 1,853,943, as against 1,840,086 calls the previous year, and the weight of refuse has averaged out at 42½ lbs. per bin, approximately the same as in the preceding year.

In addition 306 calls have been made to empty ashpits during the year as against 394 calls the previous year.

The whole of the collection is now carried out by modern mechanically propelled vehicles, each of which is fitted with steel sliding covers to ensure as little nuisance as possible from dust dissemination while loading.

### Disposal.

The tonnage of refuse collected and disposed of during the year was as follows :—

House and Shop Refuse .....	35,481 tons
Street Sweepings and Gully contents.	4,573 „

The whole of this refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping on land owned by the Corporation as follows :—

Church Quarries 21,222 tons, Farnacres 13,849 tons, Moss Heap Quarries 4,143 tons, and Teams Tip 840 tons.

The filling and levelling of the old claypit at the Teams has been completed and the land handed over to the Education Authority for use as playing fields. The Council has been successful in securing 19 acres of dene-land at Farnacres, Coach Road, in which there is an old disused sandpit, suitable for supplying covering material for all refuse after tipping, and this will serve as an outlet for all refuse from the Western portion of the Borough for a number of years.

### **Street Cleansing.**

There are 119·46 miles of Roads, Streets and Lanes within the Borough as against 115·46 miles last year. During the past year 2 R.S.C. Mechanical Sweeper Collectors have been purchased and are now in regular operation, cleansing all main thoroughfares in the early morning, after which they sweep such other streets as have impervious surfaces. Older streets and lanes are cleansed by hand sweeping. Traffic arteries and principal shopping centres are swept four times daily, and all other areas once to three times weekly as required.

Principal thoroughfares are also swept on Sundays and holidays. There are 5,351 gullies within the Borough, 90% of which are cleansed mechanically and immediately sealed with fresh water, the remaining 10% being either small type gullies or inaccessible for machines. There has been a complete absence of complaints of smells from street gullies since the present method of cleansing was adopted. Street watering, sanding and gritting of roads and footpaths was carried out as and when required throughout the year, according to prevailing climatic conditions."

### **E. SWIMMING BATHS.**

The scheme for the new and up-to-date public baths took concrete shape during 1938 and the erection will take place on the vacant piece of ground at the corner of Shipcote Lane and Alexandra Road.

## REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

### (1) Inspections and Notices.

#### Complaints Received.

From Householders :—

General Defects .....	470
Verminous Conditions.....	176
From Health Visitors and other Departments.....	71
Total .....	717

These were all enquired into, and where necessary, referred to other departments for attention.

#### Sanitary Inspection.

Summary of Sanitary Inspectors' Visits :—

##### General Sanitation.

Nature of Visit or Inspection.	No. of Inspections
House Inspection.....	2173
Water Supply .....	447
Drainage .....	1384
Stables and Piggeries .....	94
Offensive Trades .....	78
Fried Fish Shops.....	91
Houses Let in Lodgings .....	81
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	4
Bakehouses .....	92
Theatres and Places of Entertainment .....	120
Ashbin renewals .....	58
Deposits of refuse .....	64
Rats and Mice .....	444
Verminous conditions .....	677
Smoke Observations .....	19
Schools .....	3
Shops .....	190
Limewashing Passagès, etc. ....	234
Poultry Keeping .....	10
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits .....	502

Notices were served upon owners, agents and tenants requiring the abatement of nuisances and repair of dwellings, drains, sanitary convenience, etc., as set out below :—

No. of Informal Notices served .....	1077
No. of Informal Notices complied with .....	898
No. of Statutory Notices served .....	179
No. of Statutory Notices complied with .....	177



## (2) SUPERVISION OF REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

For purpose of repair and improvement of dwelling-houses, the following work done under notices or by voluntary action was supervised :—

### Dwellings.

Defective Roofs and Spouting overhauled and repaired	571
Ventilation provided, subsoil removed, etc. ....	106
Defective Floors overhauled and repaired ....	244
Exterior walls repaired and pointed ....	313
Chimney flues and stacks, ovens and ranges repaired and renewed ....	341
Stairs, doors, window frames and cords repaired and renewed ....	544
Interior walls, ceilings and plastering required.....	549
Sculleries improved or repaired ....	237
Scullery benches renewed ....	129
Food stores and pantries provided.....	181
Handrails provided ....	79

### Drainage and Sanitary Conveniences.

Choked drains and waterclosets cleared ....	269
Drains relaid and repaired ....	157
4 inch pipes used (cast iron 117 feet) ....	3614
6 inch pipes used ....	101
Manholes and traps provided ....	119
Gullies and gratings renewed ....	231
Vent and soil pipes ....	1354
Additional waterclosets ....	7
Watercloset basins renewed ....	42
Watercloset cisterns and flush pipes renewed ....	36
Scullery sinks renewed.....	69
Waste-pipes renewed ....	1002
Waste-pipe traps provided (brass traps : 9) ....	146

### Convenience and Outhouse Buildings.

Brick ash receptacles replaced by ash bins ....	35
Watercloset doors, seats, walls and roofs replaced and repaired ....	326
Ashbins provided (renewals) ....	97
Coalhouses and outhouses rebuilt and repaired ....	216
Water provided to waterclosets ....	128

**Yard Paving, etc.**

Yard paving renewed or repaired .....	245
Yard walls rebuilt or repaired .....	194
Yard doors replaced .....	158
Poultry erections removed .....	8

**Water Supply.**

As a result of notices sent under the Corporation Act, 1903, the Water Supply was renewed and fittings repaired in 174 cases.

By arrangement with the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company 567 notifications were sent by them of premises where water supply had been turned off, for defects or non-payment of rates. They also sent 535 notices when the water was re-instated.

**(3) Reconditioning of Dwellings.**

Section 51 of the Housing Act, 1936, enables owners to apply for certificates that property will not come within the operation of Clearance or Demolition Orders for periods of five to ten years, if they submit plans where alterations to buildings are needed, with schedules of complete repairs and restoration. On the completion of such works to the satisfaction of the Borough Surveyor and his Department, certificates in respect of 53 houses were granted. The work carried out is shown in the following summary :—

**Housing Improvements and Re-Conditioning.****Principal Items of Works Done.**

New sculleries constructed .....	112
Existing sculleries enlarged or improved ....	22
Sculleries provided without additional construction	12
Sinks and water supply provided inside .....	142
Pantries and food storage cupboards provided	136
Coal fired or gas heated set-pots provided ....	128
Wash-houses provided or reconditioned .....	3
Tenants using above wash-houses .....	8
Paved and drained yard area provided.....	12
Additional waterclosets provided .....	28
Baths .....	25
Lavatory Basins .....	23

The following are the results in improved accommodation obtained by the above work :—

No. of premises improved and reconditioned .....	114
No. of tenants occupying above premises before improvements were effected .....	183
Tenements converted into flats (7) .....	14
Flats converted into self-contained houses .....	—
No. of tenants occupying improved and reconditioned premises .....	171
No. of tenants acquiring additional rooms .....	5
Houses reconditioned by general repairs (including repointing, external walls and chimneys, roofs and spouting overhauled, doors, windows and ranges repaired or renewed, floors, internal plastering and walls and ceilings repaired, handrails and stairs renewed) .....	165

### House Refuse Bins.

The Cleansing Department maintain a stock of standard ashbins, 97 of which were required by notices served upon owners of 55 dwelling-houses. In their default requisitions to supply ashbins were sent to the Cleansing Department and charged to the owners of properties.

In continuance of the scheme arranged with the Cleansing Superintendent, 35 galvanized ashbins were provided free of charge in cases where owners of houses agreed voluntarily to abolish brick receptacles with doors opening to the back streets.

### (4) Sanitary Inspection of Public Buildings.

The following premises are subject to annual licences by the Licensing Justices, and before the licences are renewed, a certificate is required that the sanitary conditions are in order.

Theatres and Music Halls .....	1
Picture Halls .....	13
Halls with dancing and music licences	35
Billiard saloons .....	6
	—
	55
	—



120 Inspections were made, and the following defects dealt with :—

Walls, ceilings, etc., cleansed and re-decorated . . . . .	2
Additional w.c.s and urinals provided . . . . .	7
Conveniences, Lighting provided . . . . .	1
„ walls and w.c. basins cleansed . . . . .	9
„ basins, cisterns, etc. repaired . . . . .	4
Urinals cleansed and repaired . . . . .	1
Other defects remedied . . . . .	4

Generally speaking, the premises were kept in a satisfactory sanitary condition and certificates were issued accordingly.

(5) **Common Lodging Houses.**

'There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

(6) Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are 17 tenement houses in which 87 rooms are let as furnished lodgings. Clearance Orders have resulted in many of these lodgings being removed and others will be demolished shortly.

### (7) Offensive Trades and Knackers.

Tallow and Fat Melters . . . . .	3	
Gut Scrapers and Tripe Repairers . . . .	1	
Fish Fryers—Registered . . . . .	43	
Licensed . . . . .	38	
	—	81
Marine Store Dealers . . . . .	6	
	—	91

Three transfers of fish fryers' licences were granted.

The premises were found to be very satisfactorily conducted. The provision of modern appliances and hygienic fittings is now recognised by the trade as being essential.

## Knacker's Yard.

1,687 horses, 318 cattle, 761 cows, and 1 pig were disposed of at Dobson's Knackers Yard, South Shore Road. No complaints were received as to the conduct of this business.

**(8) Bakehouses.**

Factory Bakehouses with mechanical power	Wholesale . . . . .	9	
	Retail . . . . .	7	
		—	16
Factory Bakehouses . . . . .			51
Domestic Bakehouses . . . . .			27
			—
			94

The sanitary conditions on inspection were generally satisfactory, and any defects or neglect of cleanliness were promptly attended to.

There are no underground bakehouses in the Borough.

**(9) Shops Inspection.**

Under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, 190 visits were made to inspect sanitary conveniences and other arrangements for the welfare of persons employed.

**Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs.**

Visits of inspection were paid to premises where fertilisers and feeding stuffs were sold. A sample of bone meal was taken and certified to be above the required standard.

**(10) Merchandise Marks Act.**

Attention was also drawn, where necessary, to the provisions of the Act and Orders as to labelling of meat, fruit, etc., with an indication of origin.

**(11) Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act.**

Work under this heading was carried out throughout the year; 51 complaints were received, and 102 houses were found to be infested. The Inspectors made 444 visits, and dealt with 44 defective drains and 48 various housing defects, broken floors, decayed walls, paving, absence of airgrates and 21 refuse heaps, which allowed harbourage or ingress to dwellings.

The remedy of these defects together with the use of various types of poison baits, rat lime, traps, etc., resulted in most of the premises being cleared. 257 rats were found dead.

The gradual clearance of old buildings in slum areas is resulting in the removal of many sources of infestation.

During National Rat Week in November, 200 placards, issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, were displayed throughout the town emphasising the necessity for special action, and offering the advice and help of the staff.

## (12) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

### Particulars of the action taken.

(1) The number of :—

	Found Infested	Disinfested
(a) Council Houses .....	32	32
(b) Other Houses .....	118	118
	-----	-----
Total .....	150	150

(2) Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs :—

- (i.) Stripping off and burning wall papers.
- (ii.) Loosening wood skirtings, architraves, wood fixtures.
- (iii.) Applying blow lamp and spraying vermicides.
- (iv.) Repair of plastering, renewal of wood work, etc., by owners.
- (v.) Names of fumigants and/or insecticides used.
  - Zaldecide.
  - Lowes gassing solution.
  - Crommesol.

(3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses :—

555 tenants removed to Council houses had their furniture, bedding, etc., disinfested by H.C.N. gas.

(4) The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a contractor as follows :—

- (a) Removals to Council houses—by contractor.
- (b) Other occupied houses—by the local authority.

(5) Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.

Periodical revisits (co-operation of rent collectors and health visitors).

Warning against introduction of second-hand furniture.

The furniture hire-purchase scheme, operated by the Council is much appreciated where the furniture is in bad condition.



### **Other Verminous Conditions.**

Advice was also sought by 176 tenants complaining of infestation by beetles and crickets. In bad cases, floors, skirting boards and hearths were taken up, and all cavities and woodwork sprayed with insecticides. In other cases, insecticide powder was given.

### **(13) Smoke Abatement.**

19 visits were made and 4 observations taken of chimneys, and advice given as to the means of reducing the nuisance arising therefrom. Attention was directed to methods of stoking, class of fuel, etc.

The chief offenders in the emission of dense smoke and grit were industrial processes engaged in coke, nut and bolt and iron foundry work.

### **(14) Infectious Diseases.**

816 visits were made to cases of infectious disease notified to the Medical Officer of Health; housing conditions, means of isolation, milk supply, etc., were enquired into.

### **(15) The Factory Act, 1901 and 1937.**

This Act, consolidating and revising the Act of 1901 and many subsequent amendments and regulations, came into force on 1st July, 1938. By it, factories were separated into—

- (a) factories where mechanical power is used.
- (b) factories where no mechanical power is used.

In (a) The Local Authority are concerned only with the provision and cleanly condition of the sanitary conveniences and its adequacy for both sexes.

In (b) the general cleanliness, overcrowding, ventilation, temperature, drainage of floors, and sanitary conveniences.

New Registers were prepared for these two divisions and one of the staff now devotes whole time to this work, coupled with shop and food premises inspection.

7 Notices as to Building Operations (Section 107) and 6 Notices as to sanitary accommodation, etc., were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, and were attended to.

A statement in the form required by the Home Office is given herewith. The defects listed were remedied without recourse to written notice or prosecution.

# **FACTORY ACTS, 1901—1937.**

## **1. INSPECTIONS.**

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	66	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	237	—	—
Other Premises (Building operations, etc.) .....	14	—	—
	317	—	—

## **2. DEFECTS FOUND.**

PARTICULARS (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	11	11	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) {	Insufficient	3	—	—
	Unsuitable	1	—	—
	or defective	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes				
Total .....	18	18	—	—

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## **IV. Housing of the Working Classes.**

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## PART IV.—HOUSING.

It is regrettable to have to record that progress in the improvement in the housing conditions in Gateshead is exceedingly slow. The reasons for this apparent backwardness will be easily understood when the difficulties of the Council in finding land on which to build new housing estates are brought to mind. In previous reports the lack of building space in the Borough has been commented upon and the problem is further complicated by the fact that land, apparently available for building, is frequently so undermined that the number of houses that can be erected upon it is limited. A concrete example of such a difficulty is to be found in the district of Lobley Hill, where the Corporation originally proposed to erect roughly 1,000 houses, but, due to danger of subsidence and the precautions necessary to avoid this, the number of houses finally planned to be erected is in the region of 350.

The lack of vacant land upon which to erect council estates prevents rapid pursuit of the Slum Clearance policy of the local authority, and accordingly, cleared land is also scarce within the Borough. Even where land is available for rehousing, the impossibility of erecting the same number of houses on the cleared land as there were prior to clearance is at once revealed.

In my view the council will require to consider very soon the future extension of the Borough, so as to get land for the housing of the townspeople. The extent of this enlargement of the Borough will require to be considerable, as much of the land outside the Borough is also undermined and therefore not available for the erection of houses.

The summary table which is reproduced below gives the housing activities of the health department in 1938 and it will be seen that an enormous amount of inspectorial work continues to be carried out, and that where possible, houses capable of being rendered fit are, by official and unofficial representations, improved by the house owners themselves.

### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	1676
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	4038
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932. ... ..	167
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	343
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	354
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	347

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	...	...	279
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

## (A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	7
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	7
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—

## (B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	61
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	61
(b) By local authority in default of owners	—

## (C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	31
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	29

## (D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	25
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	3

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.*

(a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	2985
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein	3406
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein	17483
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	484
(c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	822
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases	4145
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

The abatement of overcrowding continues as far as is possible and full clerical records are kept of the state of the individual houses and families.

## Dilapidated and Unoccupied Houses.

The three houses which were dealt with under Section 58 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were subject to a Court Order for the carrying out of external and internal repairs in 1937. The work was completed in 1938.

## A. SLUM CLEARANCE.

The original Five-Year Plan of slum clearance, which was approved by the Council in November, 1933, and commenced in



April, 1934, was still being followed at the end of the year. The position then is given in the undermentioned table:—

	Areas dealt with and confirmed	Properties dealt with			Orders confirmed
		Houses	Separate dwellings.	Persons displaced or to be displaced	
1934.....	11	124	201	716	11 Clearance
1935.....	35	61	121	479	5 Clearance
1936.....	18	350	546	2078	10 Clearance
1937 .....	14	326	529	2033	8 Compulsory Purchase
1938 .....	13	298	597	2239	3 Clearance
Totals ...	91	1159	1994	7545	11 Compulsory Purchase
					8 Clearance
					5 Compulsory Purchase

**TO BE DEALT WITH IN 1939**

1939.....	19	167	205	749	
<b>REMAINING TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER 1939</b>					
	—	45	46	194	—
Grand Totals .....		1371	2245	8488	—

By the end of 1938 1,159 houses, containing 1,994 separate dwellings had been dealt with out of the total 1,371 houses with 2,245 separate dwellings originally in the schedule.

1,445 families have been re-housed in corporation houses as a result of proceedings during the five years ending 1938, during which 513 families were added to the total.

### Clearance Areas Confirmed in 1938.

The following areas were dealt with during 1938 by five Compulsory Purchase Orders and eight Clearance Orders, confirmed by the Minister of Health:—

Area No.	Designation	Order	Houses	Separate Dwellings	Persons
15	Ellison Square.....	Clearance .....	23	53	193
18	Ann Street .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	11	20	103
18A	Ann Street .....	Clearance .....	18	36	143
19	Charles Street .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	65	108	425
20	Grahamsley Street .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	35	98	331
20A	Busy Burn .....	Clearance .....	4	4	14
29	Glasshouse Yard .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	16	23	84
29A	Carr Hill Farm .....	Clearance .....	7	7	39
29B	Warburton House .....	Clearance .....	3	3	13
43	Boundary Houses .....	Clearance .....	22	33	158
43B	High Street, Wrekenton	Clearance .....	10	15	50
43C	King Pit .....	Clearance .....	10	11	45
47	Park Lane .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	74	186	641
Totals	13 Areas	8 Clearance 5 Compulsory Purchase	298	597	2239



The tenants displaced were re-housed at Highfield and Old Fold.

The following areas were inspected in detail during 1938, prior to representation by the Medical Officer of Health, as clearance areas. The Council passed resolutions to deal with these by nine Compulsory Purchase Orders and ten Clearance Orders, all of which were duly submitted to the Minister of Health for confirmation.

Area No.	Designation	Order	Houses	Separate Dwellings	Persons
25C	Railton Terrace .....	Clearance .....	5	5	19
27	Asylum Square .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	39	48	197
28	Nile Place .....	Clearance .....	24	29	101
28A	Sodhouse Bank .....	Clearance .....	2	2	6
28B	Springfield Place.....	Compulsory Purchase ...	13	17	57
28C	Springfield Place.....	Compulsory Purchase ...	3	5	20
34	Wilsons Lane .....	Clearance .....	4	4	8
34A	Greenfield Place .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	14	19	60
34B	Adelaide Place .....	Clearance .....	5	8	34
34C	Lowerys Lane .....	Clearance .....	2	3	10
34D	Weathercock Lane W	Compulsory Purchase ...	7	7	30
34E	Weathercock Lane E.	Compulsory Purchase ...	7	8	29
51	Pimlico .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	9	9	42
54	Belle Vue Bank .....	Clearance .....	3	3	11
54A	Edmund Place .....	Clearance .....	3	6	18
54B	Crosskeys Lane .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	15	20	68
54C	Belle Vue Bank .....	Compulsory Purchase ...	4	4	8
54D	Kings Buildings .....	Clearance .....	2	2	10
61	Farnacres .....	Clearance .....	6	6	21
19 Areas		9 Compulsory Purchase 10 Clearance	167	205	749

The position of the Housing Programme at the end of 1938 is that including the above areas to be dealt with in 1939, there remain in proposed clearance areas, 45 houses with 46 tenants still to be treated.

The supplementary programme alluded to in last year's report remains. It is estimated that there are 1,336 separate occupied dwellings to be added to the provisional housing programme.

### Demolition and Closing Orders.

Besides the treatment of areas in the town, proceedings under the Sections 11 and 12 of the Housing Act continue in respect of individual unfit houses. During 1938, demolition orders were made for 31 houses with 25 families and 134 persons. Closing orders were made on 27 houses with 42 families and 154 persons.

69 families, comprising 261 persons, were actually rehoused from houses demolished or closed in 1937 and 1938.

## B. OVERCROWDING.

As will be seen from the official return giving the housing activities of the Public Health Department in 1938 little progress has been made in dealing with the substantial problem of overcrowding. Apart from the abatement of overcrowding due to slum clearance, no official steps have been taken to effect improvement by the erection of new houses. The position therefore in Gateshead remains substantially the same as in the table given in last year's report, whereby it would appear that roughly 3,400 families out of a total of 31,320 were overcrowded, a percentage of 10·8%. The considerable reduction noted in last year's report, as a result of private landlords adjusting the housing conditions within the houses owned by them, did not recur in 1938, so that the figures which are given above must be taken as the hard kernel of the overcrowding problem in this Borough.

Certain legal actions were taken in respect of breaches of the Overcrowding Provisions of the Housing Act of 1936. These cases and the result of the action are summarised in the table below :—

### Particulars of Prosecutions under Overcrowding Provisions of the Housing Acts.

3 cases of failing to insert Permitted Number	fined 10/- and costs in each case		
2 " " " " Name and Address of			
Landlord and Medical			
Officer of Health	do.	do.	do.
1 case of Permitting Overcrowding .....	do.	do.	do.
1 case of Accepting rent before supplying rent book	do.	do.	do.

The crude estimate of the number of houses required for the abatement of overcrowding still remains at 1,960.

## C. HOUSING NEEDS OF THE AREA.

In last year's report it was estimated that 940 corporation houses were required to rehouse tenants displaced from slum clearance properties under the five-year programme and 952 houses to rehouse tenants displaced under the supplementary programme of slum clearance, a total of 1,892 houses. In addition, some 821 tenants, single persons or childless married couples would be displaced but would not be rehoused.

During the year 1938, 504 corporation and housing association houses were completed, which thus reduced the future needs, in respect of slum clearance, from 1892 to 1,388; adding to this total the estimate of numbers of houses required for the relief of overcrowding a grand total of 3,348 houses is still required.

In last year's report it was suggested that this figure, which reduces the gross housing needs of the area, could be further reduced if one took into account the effect of the abatement of overcrowding on the number of houses of two-apartments. It was stated that if the single persons and childless families were housed in a certain number of these two-apartment houses, and the remainder of these houses were converted, in pairs, into one single-apartment house it would reduce the housing needs of the area by some 540 houses, *i.e.*, a net total of 2,808.

This figure takes no account of a possible increase of population or of an increase of families, consequent upon the industrial activities which have lately come to the area.

Certain owners of property have been considering and have been submitting plans for the conversion of houses in flats into self-contained houses and have sought to have the tenants, who would be displaced during such operations, re-housed by the local authority. Unfortunately the local authority is not in a position to help materially in this way, due to the fact that no houses have been built specifically for the relief of overcrowding.

#### **D. HOUSING PROGRESS SINCE THE WAR.**

Private houses completed and occupied 1919-1938 .....	3774
Corporation and Housing Association houses completed and occupied 1919-1938 .....	3184
Housing Association houses under construction, December, 1938 .....	16

Housing Association houses planned 1938 :—

Highfield .....	366
Old Fold .....	66
Wrekenton .....	not yet laid out
Barn Close .....	119
Lobley Hill .....	350
Blue Quarries .....	136
East Street .....	not yet laid out
Carr Hill Road .....	not yet laid out





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## **V. Supervision of Food.**

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## **PART V.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

### **A. MILK AND DAIRIES.**

#### **1. Registration and Inspection.**

##### **Cowbyres.**

At the end of 1938 there were 11 cowbyres in the Borough registered as dairies with a total of 160 dairy cows. The herds are of varying sizes, four containing more than twenty cows, and five less than ten.

The owners of two of these herds are licensed for the production of "Accredited" milk.

The cowbyres are inspected regularly by the District Sanitary Inspectors, and attention is directed towards the cleanliness and sanitary condition of the animals, premises, and utensils, while regular limewashing is insisted on. 94 visits of inspection were made.

##### **Milk Retailers.**

Premises used for the sale of Milk in the Borough amount to 285, but 149 of these are registered for the sale of milk in bottles only. 117 persons are registered in respect of milk shops, and a further 19 dairymen, whose registered premises are outside the Borough, are registered in respect of the sale of milk from carts or cars within the Borough.

General attention is paid by the district sanitary inspectors to the enforcement of cleanliness of storage and utensils as provided in the Milk and Dairies Orders.

#### **2. Purity of Milk.**

Samples of milk for informal examination were taken in 58 cases and tested by the Gerber process, with 2 non-genuine. Formal samples were taken to the number of 69, and of these nine were adulterated as shown by deficient fat or non-fatty solids.

Six samples of ordinary milk were submitted to the inoculation test for tuberculosis. All were negative.



Two samples of "Sterilized" milk were subjected to bacteriological test for total organisms per c.c. and presence of B. Coli. These samples were satisfactory.

### 3. Milk (Special Designations) Order, (1936.)

Twenty-six licenses were issued under the above order, two for production, three for bottling and twenty-one for retailing.

The following table gives the various grades for which licenses were issued.

#### Producers.

Licensed for "Accredited" milk production and retail .. 2

#### Dealers.

Licensed to retail "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ..... 12  
 Licensed to retail "Pasteurised" Milk ..... 3  
 Licensed to retail "Accredited" Milk ..... 6  
 Licensed to pasteurise and retail pasteurised milk ..... 1  
 Licensed to bottle and retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk .. 1  
 Licensed to bottle and retail "Accredited" milk ..... 1

The producers' herds are inspected by the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture. The pasteurising plant in the Borough is regularly supervised and the firms possessing bottling licenses have sterilising plant for bottles and utensils.

### Results of Bacteriological Examination.

TEST : (1) Methylene Blue Test.  
 (2) Bacillus Coli Test  
 (3) Tubercle Bacilli Test.

Grade of Milk	Total Samples Taken	Satisfactory in Tests 1 & 2	Satisfactory in one test		Satisfactory in test 3	Not Satisfactory	Tubercle Bacilli	
			1	2			Negative	Positive
Accredited .....	14	8	3	—	—	1	2	—
Tuberculin Tested	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (certified) .....	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised.....	14	—	—	—	9	5	—	—
Total Graded Milks	34	13	3	—	9	7	2	—
Ordinary Milk .....	6	2	—	—	—	—	4	—
Total Samples .....	40	15	3	—	9	7	6	—
<b>SCHOOL MILK SUPPLY.</b> (Included in the above table).								
Accredited .....	4	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
Pasteurised.....	11	—	—	—	8	3	—	—
	15	2	1	—	8	4	—	—

In the case of unsatisfactory samples from sources outside the Borough, the Medical Officer of Health of the district (or in the case of certified milk, the Ministry) was informed of the result. The sources of the "Accredited" Milk within the Borough were closely supervised, while the pasteurisation plant was inspected and representations made to the person in charge.

#### **4. Report of Action Taken by the Inspector of the Local Authority under the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.**

As from 1st April, 1938, the Veterinary inspections required by the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders were taken over by a State Veterinary Service under the central control of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

A divisional Veterinary inspector is stationed at Durham and close co-operation has been maintained with respect to the Tuberculosis Order and the various Orders and Regulations.

The following report summarises the duties required to be performed by the Local Authority :—

#### **Live Stock Auction Marts.**

The following is a statement of the number of animals which passed through Messrs. Maughan's three auction marts, Tyne Road East, during the year under review.

<b>Fat Stock for Slaughter.</b>	1937	1938
Cattle .....	14930	16242
Sheep .....	41910	61417
Calves.....	220	120
Pigs .....	290	192
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	57350	77971
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Store Animals.</b>		
Cattle .....	20770	16460
Sheep .....	—	—
Dairy Cows .....	1637	1552
Pigs .....	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22407	18012
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of all animals	79757	95983
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Sales were held on two days per week :—

**Tuesday.**—Freshly landed Irish cattle and other store cattle.

**Fridays,**—Fat stock for slaughter. Dairy cows (newly calved).

One of my staff (Mr. Carter) attended for the purpose of issuing licences for movement of cattle, and swine, and for general supervision of cleansing and disinfection, in accordance with the various Orders issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

### **Control of Movement.**

For the control of movement of animals, 726 licences were issued for the movement of 10,964 animals out of the Borough.

501 licences dealing with 11,112 animals coming into the Borough were received and checked, as detailed under the following headings :—

### **Irish Animals Order.**

214 licences were received from the Inspectors of the Ministry at the various Irish animals landing places and these were checked against the arrival of 9,543 cattle. 46 sales were held at which 571 licences were issued for removal to farms, while copies were sent to the Local Authorities of the areas to which cattle were consigned, to enable movement and detention to be controlled.

### **Transit of Animals Order.**

Cleansing and disinfection of road vehicles used for the conveyance of animals to and from markets received attention at the washing dock provided by the proprietors of the Market at Redheugh Bridge Road, and 2630 vehicles were dealt with.

### **Swine (Movement) Orders.**

Under the Swine (Regulation of Movement) Orders, 451 licences for the movement of 3,039 pigs were issued and received and checked in the course of slaughterhouse and piggery inspection, as follows :—

#### **Into the Borough.**

9 licences for 68 store pigs to piggeries.

278 licences for 1,499 fat pigs to slaughterhouses.



**Out of Borough.**

9 licences for 39 store pigs.  
 82 licences for 1,019 fat pigs to slaughterhouses.  
 73 licences for 414 fat pigs to markets.

The district inspectors made 94 visits to piggeries, including those for the purpose of checking the registers of movement, and to see that the Orders relating to the Boiling of Foodstuffs and the Packing Materials Orders and Record Books. were complied with.

R. W. WILKINSON,

Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts.

**B. INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.****Slaughterhouses.**

There are 9 privately owned slaughterhouses in the Borough, 6 of which are registered and 3 licensed annually ; they are used by 33 butchers. Three premises have become disused.

**Number of Animals Slaughtered for Food.**

	<i>Cattle, ex- cluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	1891	1	48	10,918	1757
Number inspected .....	1891	1	48	10,918	1757

**All Diseases except Tuberculosis.**

Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	30	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	58	—	1	5	56
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis .....	3.12	—	2.0	0.32	3.24

**Tuberculosis only.**

Whole carcasses condemned	4	—	—	—	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	65	—	—	—	49
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuberculosis .....	3.64	—	—	—	3.13

The inspection of meat was efficiently carried out by qualified Meat Inspectors. No contravention of the Meat Regulations as to hours of slaughtering, etc., occurred.

Attention was given to ensure sanitary conditions, regular removal of garbage and periodical linewashing. Eight notices were served for the latter purpose.

There were 118 butchers and pork butchers shops, 7 tripe shops and 24 fish dealers shops under inspection. A total of 2,654 visits were made for food inspection purposes as follows :—

### Inspection of Meat.

Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	1411
Visits to shops and stalls	...	...	...	194
Other meat inspection visits	...	...	...	588
Visits to :—				
Butchers and fish shops	...	...	...	148
Grocers, etc.	...	...	...	70
Cowsheds	...	...	...	94
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	136
Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	13
				2654

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The slaughter of cattle and pigs by a mechanically operated instrument was made compulsory by this Act, and such apparatus is in operation in all slaughterhouses.

85 slaughtermen are licensed by the Local Authority under Section 3 of the Act.

### Unsound Food.

As a result of inspections of slaughterhouses, butchers' shops, and other premises, 42 carcasses and other meat, weighing 3 tons 2 cwt., and 662 internal organs were condemned as being affected with various diseased, parasitic or unsound conditions.

### Meat (Weight).

	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Generalized Tuberculosis .....	2324	—	463	2787 lbs.
Localized Tuberculosis .....	1108	—	372	1480 „
Other diseased conditions .....	587	1149	119	1855 „
Totals ... ..	4019	1149	954	6122 „

### Internal Organs (number).

Tubercular conditions .....	106	—	127	233 „
Other diseased conditions .....	78	155	196	429 „
Totals ... ..	184	155	323	662 „

833 lbs. of tinned meats and 392 lbs. of other foodstuffs were also condemned and destroyed.

A prosecution was instituted against a butcher (slaughtering outside the Borough) for having deposited at his shop in the Borough, portions of meat affected with tuberculous lesions. A fine of five pounds and costs was imposed. Arising out of this case, prosecutions on several counts were instituted by an adjoining local authority, and three convictions were upheld on appeal. Mr. Mears of my staff gave supporting evidence at both hearings.

### Importation of Foodstuffs.

At the Corporation Quay, Hillgate, the following food stuffs, fruit, etc., were landed by the Tyne and Tees Shipping Company from foreign ports. Any damaged consignments, such as tinned goods or meat, are referred to the Inspector of the Tyne Port Sanitary Authority.

Cereals and Flour	...	...	...	15555	bags
Sugar	...	...	...	3905	bags and cases
Margarine	...	...	...	26680	cases
Yeast	...	...	...	7995	baskets
Butter	...	...	...	16728	casks
Bacon	...	...	...	17530	boxes
Cheese	...	...	...	29915	boxes
Condensed and powder milk	...	...	...	103053	casks and cases
Beer and wine, etc.	...	...	...	290	casks
Mustard	...	...	...	636	casks
Chemical Salts	...	...	...	16650	casks
Confectionery	...	...	...	489	cases
Foods (tinned)	...	...	...	3509	cases
Eggs	...	...	...	71183	cases
Fruit and Nuts	...	...	...	85796	barrels and cases
Vegetables	...	...	...	46807	crates and bags
Other Food Stuffs	...	...	...	3177	cases and casks

### PREMISES IN WHICH FOOD IS PREPARED AND SOLD.

						Mechanical			
						Factories	Factories	Workplaces	Shops
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	16	51	27	—
Drysalts and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	—	—
Mineral Water and Beer Bottlers	...	...	...	...	...	10	—	—	—
Sausage and Pie Makers	...	...	...	...	...	4	—	—	—
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3	—
Brewers	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	—	—
Pickle and Jam Works	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	—	—
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	7	—
Food Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	—	—
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	81
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	24
Tripe Preparers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Tripe Shops	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	7
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	128
						45	62	38	240

Total..... 385



## C. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

## SAMPLES TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	Total	Pure	Adulterated
<b>OFFICIAL SAMPLES.</b>			
Milk .....	69	60	9
<b>INFORMAL SAMPLES.</b>			
Milk .....	58	56	2
Butter .....	11	11	—
Margarine .....	11	11	—
Lard .....	6	4	2
Tea .....	2	2	—
Cocoa .....	1	1	—
Coffee .....	4	4	—
Custard Powder .....	2	2	—
Ice Cream .....	5	3	2
Sweets .....	5	5	—
Aerated Waters .....	3	3	—
Ground Almonds .....	3	3	—
Cream.....	2	2	
Condensed Milk .....	—	—	
<b>Preservative Regulations.</b>			
Jams .....	7	7	—
Sausage .....	3	3	—
Dripping.....	2	2	—
Formal .....	69	60	9
Informal .....	125	119	6
Total ... ..	194	179	15

Details are given below of the milks found to be adulterated on formal sample and the action taken in respect thereof.

Description of Sample	Nature and extent of Deficiency	Action taken
No. 3 .....	Milk Fat 16.6%	Further sample No. 11 genuine
16.....	Non-fatty solids 2.4	" " " 25 "
44.....	Milk Fat 9.6%	" " " 54 "
55.....	Non-fatty solids 1.7%	" " " 88 "
56.....	" " " 0.8%	" " " 87 & 107 "
76.....	Milk Fat 6.6%	" " " 86 "
90.....	Non-fatty solids 15.4%	" " " 121 "
110.....	" " " 13.5%	" " " 117 "
130.....	" " " 5.6%	" " " to be taken

### Preservatives in Food Regulations 1925-1927.

Six of the twelve samples contained Sulphur Dioxide preservative in small amounts, and within the permitted limit.

No preservative was reported in any sample of milk.

### D. FOOD POISONING.

Two cases of suspected food poisoning came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health.

The first case was a woman who was certified as dying from enteritis due to *B. Aertrycke* following an operation for gallstones. She died in the Royal Victoria Infirmary. Full enquiry was made and it would appear that the only reason for suspecting *Aertrycke* infection was the fact that the blood showed a rising titre of agglutination against *B. Aertrycke*. In my view the condition from which this woman died was entirely related to her chronic disease of the gall bladder.

The second case which came to our notice was a woman who became suddenly ill during the night after supper consisting of potted meat and pie. She was admitted to the Public Assistance Institution, where she made a rapid recovery. A sample of faeces was reported as showing the presence of *B. Aretrycke*.

The circumstances of this case showed that the patient, her daughter and her sister had all partaken of the same foodstuffs, namely potted meat and pie, which were bought at an unknown shop in the vicinity of her house by a boy who was sent to purchase same, the boy being unknown to the patient or her friends. Despite the fullest enquiry the department failed to trace where the foodstuffs were purchased and also to obtain part of the suspected foodstuff for examination.

It would appear that solitary cases of infection by the food poisoning organisms are fairly common in this district and it is to be hoped that under the provisions of the new Public Health Act, more information will be obtainable about the cases of infection by the *Salmonella* group of organisms, suspected food poisoning being notifiable under the provisions of the new Act.

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## **VI. Prevention and Treatment of Disease.**

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## A. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following is a summary of the cases of infectious disease, notified or otherwise, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year. Most of the knowledge of non-notifiable disease came through the channel of the school medical service and its collaboration with school attendance officers:—

	Disease	Cases	Deaths Registered	Removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
Notifiable	Scarlet Fever .....	270	—	193	1
	Diphtheria .....	418	17	413	16
	Enteric Fever .....	1	—	1	—
	Dysentery.....	2	—	2	—
	Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia .....	19	—	4	—
	Acute Poliomyelitis .....	2	—	1	—
	Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	4	2	4	2
	Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	8	—	1	—
Non-notifiable	*				
	Erysipelas .....	64	—	7	—
	Acute Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia .....	146	93	30	17
	Other Pneumonia .....	—			
	Measles .....	754	19	22	5
	Whooping Cough .....	14	11	5	1
	Chickenpox .....	171	—	1	—
	Mumps .....	10	—	—	—
	Scabies .....	279	—	—	—
	Tuberculosis—				
	Pulmonary .....	219	115	—	—
	Non-pulmonary .....	62	20	—	—

\* The statistics given below this line in each column for each disease, are not necessarily related to each other.

### (1) Notifiable Diseases.

#### Scarlet Fever.

This disease was of fairly mild and uniform prevalence throughout the year, the maximum incidence being in January. There were no deaths from the disease. One marasmic infant with glandular disease of the neck was admitted to hospital as a possible case of scarlet fever; in hospital the diagnosis was revised, but the child died from convulsions.

#### Diphtheria.

Notifications of 418 cases of diphtheria were received during the year, but the monthly incidence of the disease, after the end of April, was that of an epidemic in decline and apparently the epidemic, which was so prevalent in the Borough from the Autumn of 1936, was coming to its termination.

As before, hospital accommodation was available for every case and all but 5 cases were removed to hospital. 1 case died at home, simultaneously with notification. The actual number of diphtheria deaths during the year, namely 17, is to be compared with 26 in 1937, 8 in 1936 and 2 in 1935.

The local prevalence of diphtheria in Gateshead was part of a regional prevalence in the towns of North Durham. Certain of these towns have suffered almost as severely as Gateshead, and from Gateshead the epidemic has apparently extended along the Tyne to South Shields, where a high prevalence began during the year under review.

Since the beginning of the epidemic in Gateshead there had been notified, by the end of 1938, 1,136 cases, among whom ultimately there were 51 deaths from the disease, spread over a period of little more than two years. The months of maximum incidence each year were November and December. In form, the disease was a mixture of fairly mild and very severe clinical infection, almost in equal proportions at the beginning and during the height of the prevalence, and at this time the bacteriological typing of the cases showed that the proportions were roughly equal of "gravis" and "mitis" infections.

On the other hand, during 1938, the disease was uniformly more severe than in 1937 or in 1936. As is shown in the report of Sheriff Hill Hospital, the percentage of complications, such as albuminuria and paralysis, was much higher than in previous years. Nevertheless with rapid diagnosis on clinical grounds, the promptness of administration of anti-toxin by the general practitioners, together with rapid removal to hospital, the mortality has been kept low in spite of the increased virulence of the organisms responsible for the outbreak.

The age incidence of the disease and of the fatalities ensuing is given below :—

Age	Cases	Deaths
0— 4 years	53	4
5— 9 "	208	12
10—14 "	86	1
15—19 "	33	—
20—34 "	29	—
35—44 "	7	—
45 & over	2	—

Immunisation was available in the Borough on demand throughout the year, but the public made a very poor response. A weekly clinic was held but in spite of propaganda, chiefly among mothers of young children, the total number of children immunised did not exceed 148. The disease occurred in the Nursery School and in October and November all the children

attending this school were immunised, with the consent of the parents. Personally, it is thought that the question of immunisation during an epidemic is open to debate. It would appear that in the surrounding areas, where immunisation has been carried out extensively, the epidemic differed in no way from the epidemic in Gateshead, where very little immunisation was carried out. It would seem, therefore, that the time to immunise against diphtheria is when the disease is absent, but then the difficulty of getting the consent of parents is intensified by the absence of the disease against which the immunisation is carried out.

“Carriers” were detected to the number of 42, by the throat swabbing of domestic contacts.

Abnormal class incidence in one school led to intensive inspection of a class and the detection of a virulent nasal “carrier”.

### **Enteric Fever.**

One case of typhoid fever was notified and removed to Walker Gate Hospital. The source of infection was not discovered, as the patient had partaken of many possibly contaminated food-stuffs during the probable period of infection. There were no associated cases in Gateshead or elsewhere.

### **Dysentery.**

2 cases of suspected dysentery were notified during the year.

### **Puerperal Infection.**

19 cases of puerperal infection were notified. Most of these were treated at home, but 4 cases were removed to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital and all of these recovered. Of the cases treated at home all made good recoveries.

### **Acute Poliomyelitis.**

2 cases of the disease occurred in the Autumn; one was nursed at home and was apparently a mild infection. The other case was admitted to hospital with paralysis of both lower limbs and after a long stay in hospital, was sent to the orthopaedic department of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, for the necessary further treatment.



### **Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

4 cases of cerebro-spinal fever were notified and all were removed to hospital. 1 case proved to be tubercular meningitis and died, and of the 3 genuine cerebro-spinal cases, there was one death.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

8 cases were notified and all made perfect recoveries under treatment. In one case hospital treatment was necessary. Normally removal to hospital is practised only in cases where the smears from the conjunctivae show the presence of gonococci.

### **Erysipelas.**

64 cases of erysipelas were notified and there were no deaths. 7 cases were removed to hospital. In connection with this disease, the use of streptococcal anti-toxin, combined with the newer Prontosil group of drugs, seems to have abolished mortality.

### **Acute Pneumonia.**

146 cases of pneumonia were notified and there were 93 deaths registered. The reason for this apparently high mortality is that many of the cases of pneumonia in this district are not notified at all. 17 cases were treated in Sheriff Hill Hospital and 13 in the Public Assistance Institution, a total of 30. Among these cases there were 17 deaths.

Although the number of deaths from pneumonia in 1938, namely 93 is considerably less than the number of deaths in 1937, namely 125, there is no evidence to show whether or not this is due to the use of the new drug M. & B. 693 in the treatment of the condition.

## **(11) Non-Notifiable Diseases.**

### **Measles.**

A severe epidemic of measles began in January, reached its maximum in March and finally tapered off through the months of June and July. In all, 754 cases came to the notice of the health department through the school attendance officers, while 19 deaths were registered, principally children below the age of 5 years, from the frequently fatal complication of pneumonia. 22 complicated cases of measles occurring in children under 5 years were admitted to Sheriff Hill Hospital and there were 5 subsequent deaths.

**Whooping Cough.**

Only 14 cases of whooping cough came to the notice of the health department during the year, but nevertheless there were 11 deaths. 5 cases were removed to hospital, with one subsequent death.

**Chicken Pox.**

This disease was fairly prevalent throughout the first six months of the year.

**Mumps.**

This disease was of low incidence throughout the year.

**Infectious Catarrhal Jaundice.**

The outbreak of infectious catarrhal jaundice noted in last year's report was apparently confined to the year 1937. Careful watch was kept over reported jaundice in school children, but there was no evidence to suggest that these were related to infectious catarrhal jaundice.

**Scabies.**

279 cases of scabies came to the notice of the health department during the year. This disease has been on the increase during the last three or four years and it seems to be exceedingly difficult to prevent recurrence and further spread of infection. Free treatment is given at the Greenesfield Health Centre to families affected by the disease and disinfection of personal and bed clothing is freely practised. Refractory cases of the disease are referred to the Public Assistance Institution, for in-patient treatment.

**B. TUBERCULOSIS (Report by S. D. Rowlands, M.D., D.P.H.,  
B.Hy., Clinical Tuberculosis Officer).**

**1. Statistics.****Primary Notifications received during the year.**

219 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the year, and 62 new cases of other Tubercular Diseases. 4 cases of pulmonary disease and 2 cases of non-pulmonary disease died unnotified. In addition 15 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were cancelled as non-tubercular, leaving a nett total of 208 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 59 cases of other Tubercular Diseases.

This gives nett incidence rates for the year of 1.71 Pulmonary and 0.50 other Tubercular Diseases per 1,000 of population.

The total nett incidence rate of 2.27 per 1,000 of population for all forms of the disease is 0.33 per 1,000 greater than last year.

The total of 281 new cases notified during 1938 compares with 232 notified during 1937, which is an increase of 49 (38 pulmonary and 11 non-pulmonary). This increase can be partly explained by the fact that 20 cases were notified from the Royal Victoria Infirmary during the year. Many of these were old standing chronic or inactive cases, who had been attending the infirmary for several years and had never been notified previously.

The incidence rates of Tuberculosis per 1,000 of population in the Borough since 1920, are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	Incidence Rates (all cases).
1920	424	148	3.3	1.15	4.45
1921	398	191	3.18	1.5	4.68
1922	409	184	3.21	1.44	4.65
1923	284	120	2.21	0.93	3.14
1924	272	159	2.11	1.23	3.34
1925	276	185	2.14	1.43	3.57
1926	304	159	2.38	1.24	3.62
1927	251	157	1.97	1.23	3.21
1928	339	172	2.75	1.39	4.14
1929	352	159	2.87	1.37	4.25
1930	286	122	2.33	0.99	3.32
1931	264	135	2.13	1.09	3.22
1932	279	124	2.27	1.01	3.28
1933	288	97	2.31	0.77	3.1
1934	269	68	2.18	0.55	2.73
1935	195	49	1.6	0.4	2.0
(nett)					
1936	201	79	1.68	0.66	2.35
(nett)					
1937	178	51	1.51	0.43	1.94
(nett)					
1938	208	59	1.77	0.50	2.27

Unnotified deaths have been added to the number of notified cases, as these cases should have been notified and their addition gives a more correct figure. Similarly, cancelled notifications of patients previously notified in error have been deleted for the year under review.



There were on the Notification Register at the end of the year 1,017 cases suffering from Tuberculosis (all forms) accounted for as follows :—

Pulmonary cases	374 Males.	Non-pulmonary	115 Males.
	380 Females.		148 Females.

Of the total 281 cases notified, 233 attended the Dispensary seeking treatment, leaving a difference of 48 cases who were either too ill to benefit by treatment or did not wish to attend for treatment. All newly notified cases, whether they attend the Dispensary or not, are visited by a Health Visitor and a report made to the Tuberculosis Officer on their home conditions.

Of the total notifications received during the year, 40 were notified by the Tuberculosis Officer and 113 by private practitioners, after consultation, giving a percentage of 54·4 cases seen by the Tuberculosis Officer prior to notification.

## **2. Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1938.**

During the year there were registered 115 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis giving a mortality rate of ·98 per 1,000 and 20 deaths from Other Tubercular Diseases, giving a mortality rate of 0·17 per 1,000.

The total Tuberculosis Death Rate was 1·15 per 1,000 of population, which is 0·03 per 1,000 higher than last year. These figures, compared with the death rates for England and Wales, of pulmonary ·532 and non-pulmonary ·103, are still considerably higher than those for England and Wales as a whole.

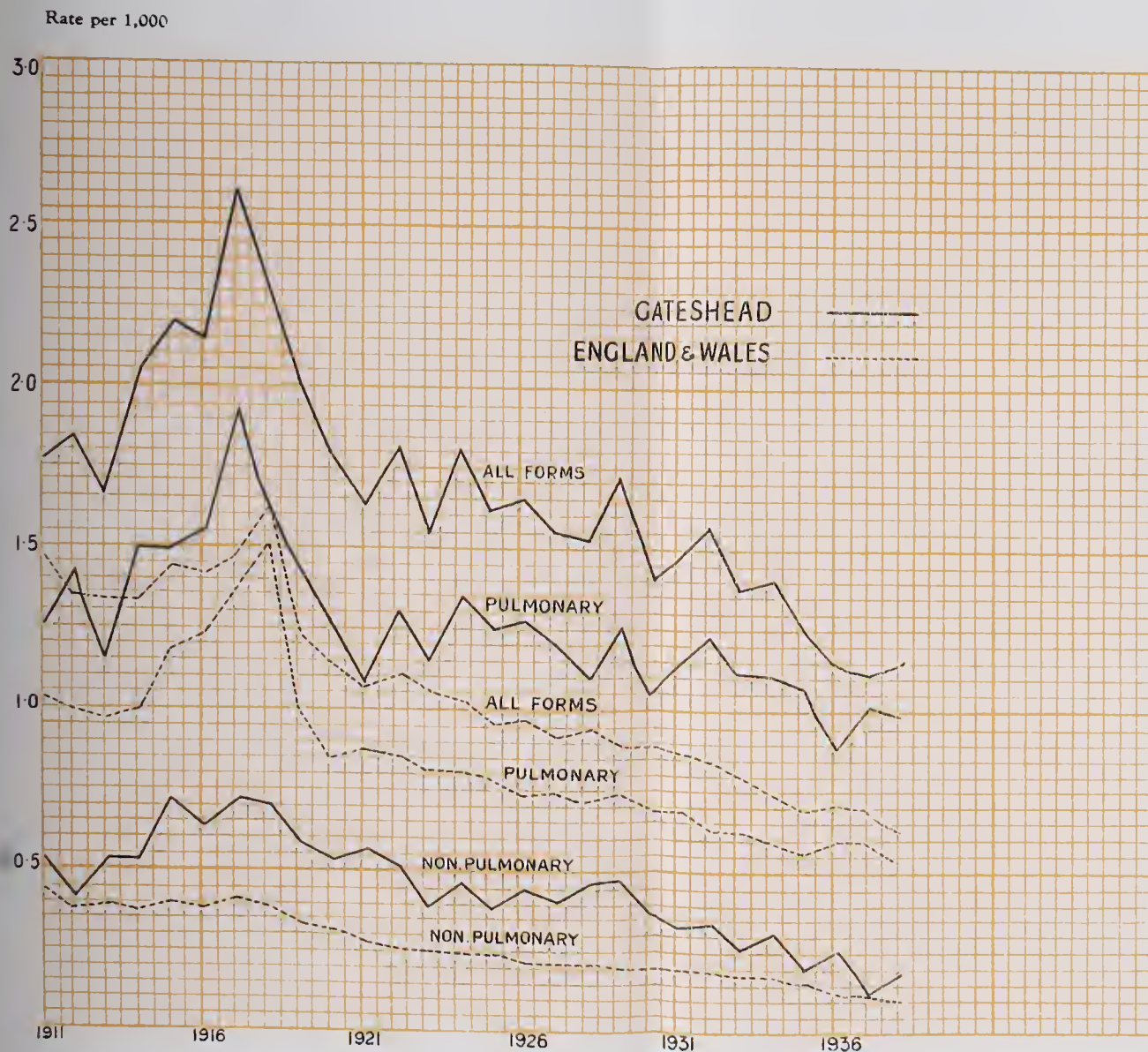
There has been a decrease of 3 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during 1938, as compared with the previous year, but an increase of 6 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The total deaths at 135 makes the mortality rate practically the same as during the two previous years.

# County Borough of Gateshead

## TUBERCULOSIS

DEATH RATES per 1,000 of population  
1911-1938



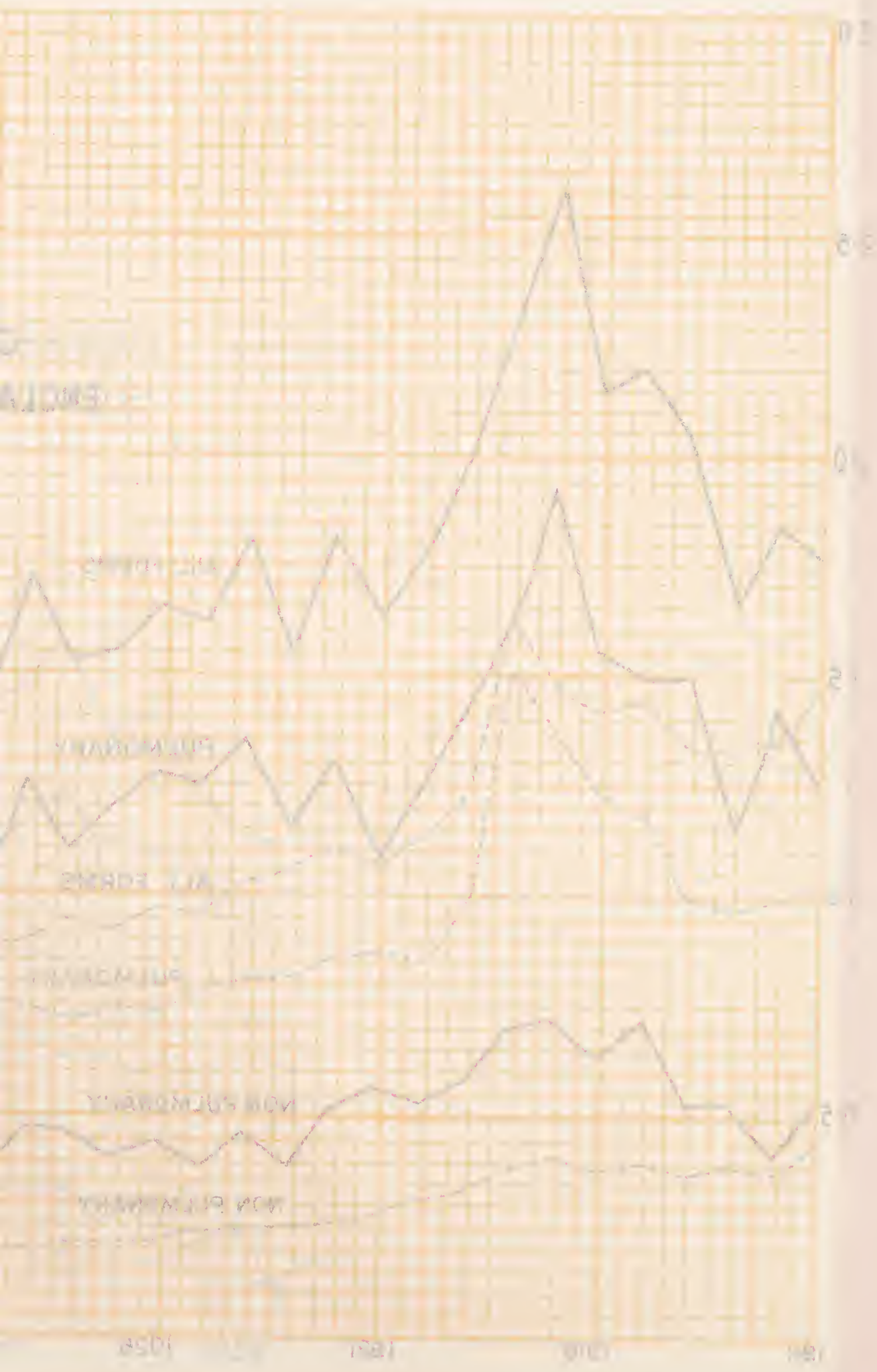


# TUBERCULOSIS

## DEATH RATES per 1000

1911-1938

Rate per 1000





The appended table gives the mortality rates and actual number of deaths from Tuberculosis during the years 1920 to 1938.

Year	Total Deaths.			Death Rates per 1.000 population.		
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	Total	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	All Forms
1920	161	69	230	1.25	0.53	1.78
1921	138	70	208	1.08	0.55	1.63
1922	168	65	233	1.31	0.51	1.83
1923	148	48	196	1.15	0.37	1.53
1924	176	58	234	1.36	0.45	1.81
1925	161	48	209	1.24	0.36	1.62
1926	160	50	210	1.25	0.39	1.64
1927	153	45	198	1.20	0.35	1.55
1928	135	55	190	1.09	0.44	1.53
1929	154	57	211	1.25	0.46	1.72
1930	129	44	173	1.05	0.35	1.41
1931	143	39	182	1.15	0.31	1.47
1932	152	40	192	1.24	0.32	1.56
1933	140	31	171	1.12	0.24	1.37
1934	135	37	172	1.097	0.3	1.398
1935	129	22	151	1.064	0.18	1.245
1936	104	30	134	0.873	0.252	1.125
1937	118	14	132	1.003	0.119	1.122
1938	115	20	135	0.98	0.17	1.15

Further details of the new cases and deaths are given in the appended table:—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0—1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
1—5	3	1	2	1	1	—	1	1
5—10	14	4	9	7	1	1	1	1
10—15	9	5	9	10	2	1	2	1
15—20	18	21	7	5	4	5	3	—
20—25	18	16	1	3	7	10	—	—
25—35	25	22	3	2	13	18	1	1
35—45	21	10	3	1	13	6	2	—
45—55	22	10	2	1	10	4	—	2
55—65	10	6	1	1	11	6	1	1
65 and up	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals ...	143	96	38	31	64	51	12	8

These figures include all primary notifications, and also others coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year from the following sources:—

						Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
(a)	Local Registrar ...	...	...	...	...	4	2
(b)	Registrar General ...	...	...	...	...	—	—
(c)	Posthumous ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
(d)	Transfers from other Areas (other than transferable deaths) ...	...	...	...	...	15	5

Of the Tuberculosis deaths 6 or 4.4% were not notified before death. Of these 4 were due to Pulmonary Disease, and 2 to other Tuberculous Diseases.

The reasons for non-notification are given as follows:—

Thought to be previously notified by another doctor .....	4
Doubtful of diagnosis .....	1
Uncertified .....	1

The following table gives details of the interval elapsing between notification and death:—

Died under 1 week from notification	...	...	...	...	9
Died from 1-4 weeks from notification	...	...	...	...	19
Died between 1-3 months from notification...	...	...	...	...	19
Died between 3-6 months after notification...	...	...	...	...	11
Died between 6-12 months from notification	...	...	...	...	11
Died between 1-2 years from notification	...	...	...	...	20
Died between 2-3 years from notification	...	...	...	...	12
Died between 3-4 years from notification	...	...	...	...	5
Died over 4 years from notification	...	...	...	...	22

69 or 51.1% of the total deaths occurred within one year of notification as compared with 57.57% in 1937.

There still continues to be a large number of cases seen by the Tuberculosis Officer in an advanced stage of the disease. The reason for this is, in the great majority of cases, the fault of the patient himself, in not seeking advice on the reason for his ill-health sooner. Continuous propaganda pointing out the symptoms and signs of the disease, and the facilities offered for diagnosis and treatment will help to reduce this unfortunate position of affairs.

There does not appear to be any unreasonable delay on the part of the private practitioner in referring cases to the Tuberculosis Dispensary; indeed, apart from definite cases sent, there were 267 other cases, ultimately found to be non-tuberculous, referred to the Tuberculosis Officer for opinion by private practitioners in the town, which illustrates the co-operation which exists between the Dispensary and the doctors.

# **TUBERCULOSIS.** **Wards, Incidence and Mortality Rates, 1938.**

Wards.	Population.	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS				OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.				Death Rate (All forms).
		Number of Cases Notified (gross).	Incidence rate per 1,000 of Population.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Number of Notifications.	Incidence Rate.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	
North .....	8582	23	2.68	13	1.51	4	0.46	—	...	1.52
North East .....	7772	16	2.05	12	1.54	8	1.02	1	0.12	1.67
North West .....	13574	31	2.28	15	1.1	12	0.88	5	0.36	1.46
Central .....	10843	20	1.84	10	0.92	8	0.74	2	0.18	1.10
East Central .....	11233	25	2.22	12	1.06	12	1.07	3	0.26	1.33
South Central .....	10883	13	1.2	6	0.55	2	0.18	3	0.27	0.82
West Central .....	10746	22	2.05	5	0.46	4	0.37	2	0.18	0.76
East.....	16452	38	2.31	29	1.76	8	0.48	3	0.18	1.94
South .....	12882	8	0.62	3	0.23	1	0.08	...	...	0.23
West .....	14033	22	1.56	10	0.71	3	0.21	1	0.07	0.78
Public Institutions	...	1	...	...	...	—	...	...	...	...
Total .....	117000	219	1.87	115	0.98	62	0.53	20	0.17	1.15



### **3. Tuberculosis Dispensary.**

During the year 444 new cases and 230 contacts were examined at the Dispensary for the first time, 22 cases were inwardly transferred from other areas, and these together with 1,045 old cases, made 4,534 attendances.

Of the 230 contacts examined, 27 were found to be definitely tuberculous, 5 were still undiagnosed at the end of the year and the remainder were non-tuberculous.

Of the new cases (excluding contacts) 168 were found to be definitely tuberculous, 9 were still undiagnosed at the end of the year, and the remainder were referred back to their own doctors as non-tuberculous.

During the year 87 cases (56 Pulmonary and 31 Non-Pulmonary) were taken off the Dispensary Register as cured.

### **Sputum Examinations.**

600 specimens of sputum were examined at the Dispensary and Whinney House Hospital, 158 of which contained Tubercle Bacilli (26.33%).

As an aid to diagnosis, specimens of sputum are examined at the Dispensary free of charge for private practitioners. 138 specimens were examined in this way during the year.

### **Evening Sessions at the Dispensary.**

Evening Sessions were held regularly at the Dispensary throughout the year for the convenience of patients who are at work during the day.

### **Co-operation with Private Practitioner.**

Close co-operation between the private practitioner and the Dispensary has continued during the year, out of 444 new cases (excluding contact and inward transfers) seen during the year 328 were referred to the Dispensary by private practitioners before diagnosis for an opinion. Of these 113 were subsequently notified.

On December 31st there were 312 insured persons on the Dispensary Register and 14 of these were receiving Domiciliary Treatment from their panel doctors; many of the remainder not requiring active treatment for the time being were able to continue at work.

Work for the Ministry of Pensions under special arrangements in force entailed the furnishing of 2 certificates and reports with respect to Tuberculous pensioners.

### **Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations), 1925.**

No action has been necessary during the year under the above Regulations with regard to tuberculous persons employed in the milk trade.

### **Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.**

No action as regards the compulsory removal of patients to a Tuberculosis Institution was taken during the year.

### **Home Visiting.**

The Health Visitors paid 299 first visits and 1,853 revisits, a total of 2,152 visits to patients' homes during the year, and the Tuberculosis Officer made 111 visits to special cases.

These visits of the Health Visitor play an important part in keeping in touch with the patients and careful consideration is given to the weekly reports presented to the Tuberculosis Officer.

2 sanitary defects in 2 premises were reported to the Sanitary Inspector's Department, and appropriate action was taken in each case. The main defects noted were structural and concerned mostly with dampness of dwelling houses.

### **Housing and Sleeping Accommodation of Notified Cases.**

211 new cases were investigated, on which full particulars of housing and sleeping accommodation are available, and only 100 of these were found to occupy a separate bedroom.

18 occupied a separate bed with others in the room.

93 cases occupied the same bed as other persons, and of these 66 had one other person in bed with them, 23 had two others and 4 had more than two others.

Overcrowding and opportunity for mass infection continues as shown by the following figures:—

63 had two in the bedroom, 28 had three, 11 had four, 4 had 5, 3 had six and 2 had seven.

Of the 211 cases investigated, the housing accommodation was as follows:—

One roomed tenement .....	2
2 rooms .....	41
3 rooms .....	74
4 rooms .....	52
Over 4 rooms .....	42

It will be seen that 80·09% of the cases occurred in houses having four rooms or under.

During the year an endeavour was made to alleviate the overcrowded condition of some of the most urgent cases. 11 families were rehoused during the year in Council houses.

Compared with the condition of patients in the report on housing conditions for previous years, there has been a continued improvement in the figures relating to the sleeping accommodation of patients. One hopes eventually to reach the ideal when every tuberculous patient will have a room to himself.

### **Artificial Light Treatment.**

Four sessions per week (2 for males and 2 for females) are held, for tuberculous patients in the sun-ray clinic.

The course of treatment is prescribed by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer and carried out by the dispensary nurse.

Cases treated, in the main, have been patients suffering from tuberculous adenitis, lupus, and bone and joint disease. Results have been encouraging and this form of treatment has been found to be a very useful adjunct to ordinary dispensary treatment.



During the year, commencing on 13th June, 1938, 111 sessions were held and 12 males and 10 females were treated.

#### 4. Sanatorium Treatment.

The number of beds available for the residential treatment of Gateshead patients is as follows :—

Barrasford Sanatorium .....	...	...	...	Males	10
Wolsingham Sanatorium	...	...	...	Females	12
				Children	3
*Stannington Sanatorium	...	...	...	Children	20
Stanhope Sanatorium	...	...	...	Children—	
				(Male)	11
Whinney House Hospital	...	...	...	Males	27
				Females	21

\* High Teams Hospital—50 beds are available at this institution for advanced cases, of which a variable number are occupied by Gateshead patients. These are not under the control of the Tuberculosis Officer.

\* Surgical cases occupy a proportion of the beds.

#### Poole Sanatorium.

The foundation stone of the new sanatorium was laid in October, 1938, and work is steadily progressing. It is hoped that the building will be complete in 1940.

This institution will provide forty beds for the treatment of tuberculous cases from Gateshead.

## TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

### (a) Return showing the work of the Dispensary (or Dispensaries).

DIAGNOSIS	PULMONARY				NON-PULMONARY				TOTAL				GRAND TOTAL
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	78	45	14	3	4	4	12	8	82	49	26	11	168
(b) Diagnosis not completed...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	2	1	9
(c) Non-tuberculous .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79	96	42	50	267
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year :—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	6	10	10	5	—	—	1	—	6	10	11	5	32
(b) Diagnosis not completed...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5
(c) Non-tuberculous .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	52	57	62	193
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as :—													
(a) Recovered.....	16	15	15	10	2	6	11	12	18	21	26	22	87
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	105	152	105	116	478
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on 31st Dec.:													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ...	235	206	104	98	21	25	59	45	256	231	163	143	14793
(b) Diagnosis not completed...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3	4	14
1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on 1st January ...	796				2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years ...								34
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the tuberculosis scheme, and cases "lost sight of" ...	35				4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ...								97
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	4538				6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on 31st December ...								14
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :— (a) Personal ... (b) Other ...	5 334				8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations) ...								111
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes ...	2153				10. Number, of :— (a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined ... (b) X-ray examinations made in connexion with Dispensary work								600 1106
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A(b) above ...	7				12. Number of "T.B." plus cases on Dispensary Register on 31st December ...								309

**Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment and observation during the year in Institutions (other than Poor Law Institutions) approved for the Treatment of Tuberculosis.**

		In Institutions on Jan. 1st (1)	Admitted during the year (2)	Discharged during the year (3)	Died in the Institutions. (4)	In Institutions on Dec. 31st (5)
(a) Number of doubtful-ly tuberculous cases admitted for observation.	Adult Males	—	4	4	—	—
	Adult Females	—	5	5	—	—
	Children	—	8	6	—	2
	Total	—	17	15	—	2
(b) Number of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	Adult Males	34	100	91	6	37
	Adult Females	24	70	65	6	23
	Children	25	45	41	—	29
	Total	83	215	197	12	89
(c) Number of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis	Adult Males	—	—	—	—	—
	Adult Females	—	2	1	—	1
	Children	9	11	13	1	6
	Total	9	13	14	1	7
GRAND TOTAL (a), (b) and (c)		92	245	226	13	98

**Return showing the extent of Residential Treatment provided during the year in Poor Law Institutions for persons chargeable to the Council.**

		In Institutions on Jan. 1st (1)	Admitted during the year (2)	Discharged during the year (3)	Died in the Institutions (4)	In Institutions on Dec. 31st (5)
Number of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis	Adult Males	18	38	18	23	15
	Adult Females	3	20	9	8	6
	Children	1	4	3	2	—
	Total	22	62	30	33	21
Number of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	Adult Males	2	4	2	2	2
	Adult Females	1	1	2	—	—
	Children	2	4	4	—	2
	Total	5	9	8	2	4
GRAND TOTAL		27	71	38	35	25



Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely tuberculous patients discharged during the year from Institutions (other than Poor Law Institutions) approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

		DURATION OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.												Grand Totals.				
Classification.	Condition on Discharge.	Under 3 months, but exceeding 28 days.			3—6 months.			6—12 months.			More than 12 months.				Totals.			
		M.	F.	CH.	M.	F.	CH.	M.	F.	CH.	M.	F.	CH.	M.	F.	CH.		
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Class T.B. Minus	Quiescent ...	3	2	—	4	10	3	1	—	11	—	—	6	8	12	30	50
		Not Quiescent ...	6	8	3	7	4	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	13	13	7	33
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Class T.B Plus Group I.	Quiescent ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
		Not Quiescent ...	4	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	7
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Class T.B.Plus Group II	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
		Not Quiescent ...	14	6	1	16	10	1	5	9	—	3	1	2	38	26	4	68
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
	Class T.B Plus Group III	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not Quiescent ...	7	1	—	11	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	20	3	—	23
		Died in Institution ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	6
TOTALS (Pulmonary)		36	20	4	41	26	15	12	15	13	3	1	9	92	62	41	195	
NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Bones & Joints	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	3
		Not Quiescent ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	4
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
	Abdominal	Quiescent ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	1	5	6
		Not Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Other Organs	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Peripheral Glands	Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Not Quiescent ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Died in Institution ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS (Non-pulmonary)		—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	6	—	—	5	—	1	14	15	

## PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Supplementary Annual Return showing in Summary form (a) the condition at the end of 1938 of all patients remaining on the Dispensary Register: and (b) the reasons for the removal of all cases written off the Register. The Table is arranged according to the years in which the patients were first entered on the Dispensary Register as definite cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and their classification at that time.

[illegible]



### NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Supplementary Annual Return showing in summary form (a) the condition at the end of 1938 of all patients remaining on the Dispensary Register; and (b) the reasons for the removal of all cases written off the Register.

[illegible]



## 5. Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The Care Committee continues to render useful services in the care of necessitous patients.

This assistance has usually taken the form of the granting of clothing (as a rule to enable patients to be properly equipped to go to Sanatorium), the loan of bed and bed clothes (to enable infectious cases to sleep by themselves), surgical appliances, and extra nourishment.

### Comparative Statistics of Work done is given below :—

		1938	1937	1936	1935
Cases considered during the year.					
Old Cases .....	45				
New Cases .....	79				
		124	162	185	187
Clothing outfits provided :—					
At cost of Committee .....	76				
Obtained through other sources ...	29	105	116	128	103
Cases to whom beds and bedding loaned .....		18	17	26	43
Total cases to whom beds and bedding are now on loan		56	45	44	29
Bedclothes loaned .....		11	4	8	11
Surgical appliances provided .....		6	2	4	11
Other forms of help (e.g., dentures, spectacles, etc.,) obtained for patients through other sources.		7	10	15	12
Tuberculous families "adopted" by St. Martins' Jubilee Friends Scheme .....		54	51	51	32

S. D. ROWLANDS, M.D., D.P.H., B.Hy.,  
Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

## C. VENEREAL DISEASES.

The year under review marks the first full year of the operation of the Tyneside Area Joint Committee Clinic, which is under the control of Dr. A. E. W. McLachlan, Medical Officer to the Joint Committee. Through his co-operation I include herewith a return of the year's work, from which it will be obvious that there has been a great increase in the amount of treatment given to the individual cases from the area :—

## Return relating to Gateshead Cases treated at the Joint Committee Clinic, Newcastle General Hospital, during 1938

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorr- hoea		Condi- tionsother than Venereal				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total
Persons under treatment or observation on 1st January, 1938.	72	50	—	—	45	13	15	7	132	70	202
Old Cases. returned.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
New Cases. Syphilis, primary	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
,, secondary	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4
,, late	15	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	14	29
,, congenital	10	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	4	14
Soft Chancre	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gonorrhoea	—	—	—	—	103	27	—	—	103	27	130
Non venereal	—	—	—	—	—	—	73	33	73	33	106
Cases transferred from other areas.	11	7	1	—	12	—	—	—	24	7	31
Totals ... ..	114	76	2	—	161	40	88	40	365	156	521
Cases discharged after cure.	15	5	1	—	44	6	74	33	134	44	178
Cases ceasing attendance before completing treatment.	9	5	—	—	22	6	—	—	31	11	42
Cases ceasing attendance after completing treatment but before tests of cure.	—	4	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	4	7
Cases transferred to other centres.	7	5	1	—	16	3	2	—	26	8	34
Cases under treatment on 31-12-38	83	57	—	—	76	25	12	7	171	89	260
Totals... ..	114	76	2	—	161	40	88	40	365	156	521
No. of attendances for medical treatment	1588	1109	13	—	2425	700	298	233	4324	2042	6366
,, intermediate ,,	—	—	33	—	5883	846	479	49	6395	895	7290
In-patients											
Admissions.	3	6	—	—	3	1	1	—	7	7	14
In-patient days	180	62	—	—	89	121	15	—	284	183	467

### Pathological Work of the Centre.

27 specimens of secretion were examined for spirochaetes and 2,987 for gonococci. 657 specimens of blood and 20 of cerebro-spinal fluid were submitted to Wassermann reaction and 304 to gonococcus complement fixation test.

### Drugs Used.

The arsenical compounds used in the clinic were novarse nobillon, sulphostab, stabilarsan, neokharsivan, silversalvarsan, of which 1,000 injections were given, tryparsamide, of which 83 injections were given. 20 injections of colloidal mercury were given and also 2,164 injections of bio-oxychloride, liposoluble bismuth, iodobismuthate of quinine, and bicreol.

## D. VACCINATION.

Mr. T. Middlemast, Vaccination Officer, returns the following summary of proceedings in respect of the year 1938 :—

Number of entries in birth lists received during year 1938	...	1703
Vaccination Certificates received.		
<i>a.</i> from private practitioners	... ..	107
<i>b.</i> from public vaccinators	... ..	851
<i>c.</i> revaccinations	... ..	18
Certificates of Postponement received.		
<i>a.</i> Health of child	... ..	77
<i>b.</i> Conditions of house	... ..	—
<i>c.</i> Prevalence of disease	... ..	1
Died unvaccinated	... ..	75
Statutory declarations of conscientious objectors	... ..	872
Certificates of insusceptibility	... ..	2
Cases where parents have removed from area	... ..	20
Cases otherwise not found	... ..	15
Number of entries in lists sent to Public Vaccinators	... ..	912
Proceedings	... ..	—

## E. CANCER.

**Table showing Age and Distribution of Cancer Deaths,  
(1911–1938)**

Year.	Age				Total.
	0–25 yrs.	*25–45 yrs.	45–65 yrs.	65 & Upwards	
1911	2	14	44	29	89
1912	1	17	50	37	105
1913	3	12	59	37	111
1914	3	12	58	37	110
1915	1	14	64	29	108
1916	2	17	59	44	122
1917	3	23	62	36	124
1918	1	14	49	35	99
1919	3	9	65	43	120
1920	1	7	75	34	117
1921	1	10	67	45	123
*1922	—	12	69	41	122
*1923	2	19	66	49	136
*1924	3	14	76	41	134
*1925	—	13	70	52	135
*1926	—	12	72	58	142
*1927	2	18	72	61	153
*1928	1	8	79	81	169
*1929	—	15	71	70	156
*1930	—	13	65	69	147
1931	2	8	74	62	146
1932	—	23	89	86	198
1933	2	13	86	75	176
1934	—	13	91	72	176
1935	—	10	70	78	158
1936	2	17	89	91	199
1937	1	18	88	90	197
1938	1	16	96	85	198

\*For the years 1922 to 1930 inclusive the figures quoted refer to the age group 20–45 years of age and not to the age group 25–45 years of age.



### Cancer Deaths, 1938—Situation of Disease.

SITE.		AGE GROUPS—In years.						Males	Fe- males	Total	
		Under 25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	66-75				over 75
CANCER.											
Buccal Cavity	{ Tongue	—	—	—	—	6	1	1	8	—	8
	{ Jaw	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	2
	{ Mouth	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	4	1	5
	{ Throat	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	2
Digestive Tract	{ Oesophagus	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	4	1	5
	{ Stomach	—	1	4	5	21	10	5	30	16	46
	{ Intestine	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	3	4	7
	{ Colon and Caecum	—	—	2	7	6	10	3	16	12	28
	{ Rectum	—	—	—	4	4	3	5	9	7	16
	{ Gall Bladder	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	2
	{ Liver	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	1	3
	{ Pancreas	—	—	—	—	3	3	1	1	6	7
	{ Peritoneum	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Respirat- ory System	{ Larynx	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	2
	{ Lung	—	1	—	2	4	2	1	8	2	10
	{ Mediastinum	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	2
Genito- Urinary System	{ Vulva	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
	{ Vagina	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
	{ Uterus and Cervix Uteri	—	—	4	4	5	2	1	—	16	16
	{ Ovary	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	3
	{ Bladder	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4	—	4
	{ Prostate	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	7	—	7
	{ Kidney	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Other Organs.											
	Breasts	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	—	9	9
	Brain	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1	3
	Glands of Neck	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
Other Tumours.											
	Rodent Ulcer	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	2
	Osteosarcoma of Ileum	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2
	Malignant Disease of Spine	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
	Sarcoma of Thyroid	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
		1	3	16	30	71	53	24	110	88	198

Of the total deaths, 65 occurred in hospital, 37 in the Public Assistance Institution, 17 in the Royal Victoria Infirmary, 1 in Newcastle General Hospital and 10 in other institutions.

### F. WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

No scheme for the prevention of blindness has been initiated in this area, and the favourable time to initiate a comprehensive scheme will arise when the hospital and clinic facilities of the Borough have been brought up to date.

Children under school age and school children with defective vision are able to get treatment and have glasses supplied through the child welfare and school services.

Other cases of threatened blindness are dealt with at the voluntary hospitals of the area.

Statistics relevant to blindness in Borough residents are given hereunder as at 31st March, 1939.

### Blind Persons classified by age and sex:—

Years.	Total	Males	Females
0- 5 .....		Nil	
5-16 .....	5	1	4
16-21 .....	8	4	4
21-40 .....	29	19	10
40-50 .....	18	12	6
50-65 .....	70	28	42
65-70 .....	33	18	15
Over 70 .....	86	40	46
	249	122	127

### Age at which blindness occurred:—

Age (Years)	Total	Males	Females
0-1 .....	39	19	20
1-5 .....	3	—	3
5-10 .....	5	3	2
10-20 .....	13	8	5
20-30 .....	14	10	4
30-40 .....	17	7	10
40-50 .....	34	22	12
50-60 .....	41	17	24
60-70 .....	47	21	26
70 and over .....	32	13	19
Unknown .....	4	2	2
	249	122	127

### Condition of Blind Persons:—

	Total	Males	Females
Employed (i) in workshops .....	10	7	3
(ii) as home workers .....	12	7	5
(iii) otherwise .....	2	2	—
Total ... ..	24	16	8
Under training (Industrial) .....	12	9	3
Trained but unemployed .....	—	—	—
Unemployable .....	204	92	112
No training but trainable .....	4	4	—
	244	121	123
Children of school age .....	5	1	4
	249	122	127

3 males and 3 females are resident in the Public Assistance Institution.

1 female is resident in the Mental Hospital.

Of the unemployed the number of persons over 70 years of age is 86.

### Occupations of Employed:—

Basket & Cane Workers .....	3	Mattress or Mat makers .....	4
Copyists .....	1	Piano Tuners.....	2
Dealers, Tea Agents &c. ....	6	Chair Seaters.....	1
Knitters .....	7		—
			24

**Blind, Physical and Mental Defectives :—**

	Total	Males	Females
(a) Blind and Mental Defective .....	2	—	2
(b) Blind and Physically Defective .....	10	7	3
(c) Blind and Deaf .....	12	5	7
(d) Blind and Deaf-mute .....	2	1	1
(e) Combination of (a) & (b) .....	1	1	—
(f) „ „ (b) & (c) .....	1	—	1
	28	14	14

The scheme to assist the unemployable or necessitous blind by augmenting their income, which has been in operation since 1927, has been carried out during the year. The grants made for the year under review were as follows :—

In the case of single unemployable or necessitous blind persons, the income is made up to 20/- per week.

In the case of two unemployable or necessitous blind persons in a household the joint income is made up to 30/- per week.

On 5th August, 1931, the scheme was enlarged to incorporate the provision of domiciliary relief to dependents of blind persons.

For the purpose of this scheme “dependents” are deemed to be “the wife of the registered blind person and such of his children under sixteen years of age as may be resident with him and dependent upon him for support.”

A sub-committee composed of members of the Blind Persons Act and the Public Assistance Committees, and also representatives of the Home Teaching Society for the Blind meets monthly and considers each case on its merits.

An average of 132 grants were made each week and the total amount disbursed during the year ended 31st March, 1939, was £3,378 9s. 9d., while £691 18s. 6d. was paid in respect of dependents of blind persons.

The above sum is irrespective of grants made to Home Workers, Workshops for the Blind, and the Newcastle and Gateshead Home Teaching Society.



### **Home Workers.**

The amount disbursed to Home Workers in augmentation of income was £278 10s. 0d.

In August, 1936, the Council decided to increase the augmentation from 8/- or less according to a scale to a flat rate of 10/- per case, provided the total income from all sources including grant, did not exceed £2 10s. 0d. per week.

In cases where Home Workers' earnings did not reach £1 per week, there was granted, in addition to the 10/-, a sum equal to the difference between his earnings and £1.

£81 16s. 0d. was paid in this respect.

### **Certification of Blindness.**

73 persons were examined by the Ophthalmologist, 46 of whom were certified as being Blind within the meaning of the Blind Persons Act.

### **Social Work.**

The premises at Shaftesbury House, Prince Consort Road, which were opened in 1936, continue to provide a Social Centre for the Blind, and among the various activities held are Handicraft Classes, Discussion Groups, Women's Meetings, Men's Meetings, Games and Reading Sessions. The teachers are thus able to give individual attention and at the same time, have a number of blind persons under supervision.



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## **VII. Miscellaneous.**

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## **PART VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.**

### **A. PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.**

The administration of the provisions of this Act relating to listed sellers of poisons is carried out by the Health Department and a register for such persons is kept at the Health Office. In 1938, 28 persons were registered for the sale of poisons listed in Part II of the Poisons List.

Arrangements were made with the Pharmaceutical Society for the Society's Inspector to supervise and report on the sale of poisons by registered vendors at a fee of 10/6 per annum per shop.

### **B. AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.**

At the end of the year 1937, the position in respect of the casualty services of this Borough was that proposals to designate 8 fixed first aid posts, for the most part situated in schools, had been definitely formulated and some preliminary contact had been established with the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society, with a view to providing the personnel for the casualty services. The proposal for 8 fixed first aid posts, mainly situated in schools, was submitted to the Home Office, but the crisis in September, 1938, burst upon the Local Authority to find the local casualty service almost entirely unprepared to meet possible contingencies. There is little doubt that this experience was the rule throughout the country.

During the one week of September, 1938, more was done towards setting up a casualty service than had been contemplated in the three previous years. The reason for this is of course obvious. For the first time the Medical Officer of Health had fairly complete powers of setting up an emergency service and during that time dressings, instruments, splints and other materials were ordered, while the contact with the voluntary ambulance organisations became a real one. So difficult was the situation in respect of supplies that it was fully three months later before the last of the orders, placed at the time of the crisis with manufacturers of dressings, instruments, etc. were fulfilled.

The situation regarding personnel was also clarified and it was obvious that no longer could the Local Authority look to the voluntary ambulance organisations for any other than relatively a few highly trained individuals, who would be most fitted to take command of other volunteers. Recruitment of volunteers for the first aid service similarly began in September, 1938, and some 500 names were received. Classes were organised to take place in the evenings and a number of these volunteers, roughly 100 altogether, succeeded in passing the proficiency tests of the voluntary organisations. A large number however failed to complete their course of training and have since been lost to the scheme. Meantime, changes in the method of organising the air raid precautions service, now renamed "civil defence measures" led to first aid posts, hospitals and the personnel of these being placed under the control of the Ministry of Health for administrative purposes. At the end of the year, great activity and recruitment was in operation to try and fill, by voluntary measures, the huge gaps in the personnel of the various civil defence services.

The position in Gateshead, therefore, is that including roughly 100 volunteers from the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society and another 100 volunteers trained by the local authority in the last three months of the year, the service is still short of roughly 1,100 persons of the full quota of personnel required.

It must be emphasised, in connection with the casualty service, that untrained people with the best will in the work, are entirely useless in the handling or treatment of casualties. Indeed it is conceivable that they might actually be a danger to the casualties from adopting wrong methods of treatment. The necessity, therefore, of training thoroughly and in advance of any emergency the full personnel of the casualty service will be apparent to all. At least six months will be required to give intending volunteers a smattering of training for the serious duty which will rest on their shoulders.

At the end of the year, a re-orientation of the idea of the Central Authority concerning aid posts led to new consideration of the problem and as a result it was fairly certain that existing hospitals, out-patients departments, clinics, etc. were to be utilised for this purpose in preference to schools. Accordingly,

a re-survey of the Borough was taking place, with a view to the final formation of the outline of the casualty service and, at the same time, equipment ordered in September was now fully in stock and material and equipment from the central authority began to arrive.

A new burden, however, began to be created, namely the difficulty of finding suitable storage accommodation for the equipment designed or earmarked for use in the casualty branches of civil defence.

### **C. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPERANNUATION ACT, 1937.**

44 individuals appointed to designated posts were examined by members of the public health staff during the year.

### **D. UNIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ON TYNE-SIDE.**

No further steps have been taken during this year to bring about any changes in the light of the two reports of the Royal Commission dealing with this matter.

### **E. BURNING PIT HEAP AT HEWORTH.**

The nuisance from the burning pit heap, which is situated in the urban district of Felling, continued intermittently during the year, but there were no complaints received in this department regarding the matter.

The nuisance is particularly felt when the air is humid and still, and is of the sulphuretted gas type.



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## VIII. Municipal Institutions for the Sick.

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**PART VIII. MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE SICK.  
SHERIFF HILL INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1938.**

**GENERAL STATISTICS.**

**Table of Admissions, Discharges and Deaths.**

Disease on Admission	In Hos- pital 1/1/38	Ad- missions 1938	Dis- charges 1938	Deaths 1938	In Hos- pital 31/12/38
Scarlet Fever.....	35	193	212	1	15
Diphtheria .....	78	413	439	16	36
Erysipelas .....	—	7	7	—	—
Meningitis .....	—	5	3	2	—
Measles .....	—	22	17	5	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	1	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	2	2	—	—
Pneumonia .....	—	17	13	4	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	5	3	1	1
Mastoiditis.....	—	1	1	—	—
Chicken Pox.. .....	—	1	1	—	—
Totals ...	113	667	699	29	52

**(a) Patient Days in 1938.**

Scarlet Fever .....	6,202
Diphtheria .....	14,608
Other Conditions .....	1,216
Total .....	22,026

**(b) Average Duration of Stay of Patients.**

Scarlet Fever cases .....	29 days
Diphtheria cases .....	32 „
All cases .....	27 „

**(c) Beds Occupied during Year**

Average number .....	60
Highest number .....	122
(on January 4th)	
Lowest number .....	34
(on May 28th)	

**Comparative Table of Admissions and Patient-Days.  
(1924-1938)**

Yr.	Admiss- ions	Days	Year	Admiss- ions	Days	Year	Admiss- ions	Days
1924	324	—	1929*	121	4,692	1934	796	39,182
1925	286	—	1930	313	13,180	1935	376	18,700
1926*	493	12,642	1931	415	17,100	1936	399	14,944
1927*	267	5,818	1932	512	23,128	1937	870	24,083
1928*	468	12,660	1933	580	25,795	1938	667	22,026

\*During these years the institution was used mainly for the isolation of Smallpox.

At the end of 1937 the hospital was filled to overflowing with cases of diphtheria, and makeshift arrangements had to be instituted for the reception of the staff, in two council houses at Causeway, Sheriff Hill. The temporary corrugated iron ward was also refitted for the reception of patients.

Difficulties in the way of staffing had been met by the importation of private trained nurses.

The back of the problem of dealing with the diphtheria outbreak was broken in 1937 and from the beginning of 1938 to the end of the year the difficulties gradually were alleviated by the reduction in the number of patients. As a temporary expedient the corrugated iron block, as refitted, was utilised from the summer onwards for the use of the nursing staff, while the domestic staff were housed in the annexe to the scarlet fever block. Only one house at the Causeway was in use at the end of the year for the housing of certain members of the night nursing staff.

Accompanying the disappearance of the acute difficulties at the hospital, a commencement was made with the building of the new extensions and by the end of the year two new cubicle wards had been completed so far as the brickwork was concerned and considerable progress had been made with the new administrative block. It is to be hoped that these will be put in use during 1939.

Steps were taken to apply for the approval of the Sheriff Hill Isolation Hospital and Whinney House Tuberculosis Hospital as a training school for fever nurses and provisional approval was given by the General Nursing Council during the year, upon certain conditions. These conditions referred mainly to Whinney House Hospital and to the new buildings.



The total number of admissions in 1938 ranks still as one of the highest in the history of the institution and these were mainly of diphtheria cases of the toxic types. The work thrown on the staff was arduous in the extreme and I have to express my appreciation of their efforts, which had so much to do with the comparatively slight mortality of the disease during the year.

The following clinical record of the conditions treated in the hospital, as revealed by an analysis of the discharges and deaths, is included here for reference.

### SCARLET FEVER.

193 cases of scarlet fever were admitted, and there was one revised diagnosis—a child who died of septic infection of the glands in the neck and broncho-pneumonia. The actual case mortality of scarlet fever was therefore nil. Return cases were two in number, a very low percentage indeed. There was one case of surgical scarlet fever. The complications met with were as follows:—

								<i>Number</i>	<i>Incidence</i>
Adenitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	9.6 %
Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4.5 %
Rhinitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4 %
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2 %
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2.5 %
Arthritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2 %
Furunculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	.5 %
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1 %
Phlebitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	.5 %
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1 %
Late Tonsilitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	.5 %

The low incidence of adenitis and otitis media may be due to the type of the disease, but much more probable is it that the free use of the Prontosil group of drugs kept the complications at a minimum.

Complicating diseases were met with as follows:—

Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	...	14
Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2

### DIPHThERIA.

413 cases of notified diphtheria were admitted but the diagnosis was revised in 27 cases as follows:—

Tonsilitis	.....	14
Laryngitis	.....	4
Scarlet Fever	.....	4
Measles	.....	3
Whooping Cough	.....	1
Laryngismus Stridulus	.....	1

Complicating diseases were present as follows :—

Diphtheria and Measles .....	5
Diphtheria, Measles and Whooping Cough .....	1
Diphtheria and German Measles .....	1
Diphtheria and Scabies .....	1

Of the 386 cases of diphtheria there were 16 deaths, a case mortality of 4·1%, which is the lowest figure of the last three years, during which diphtheria was epidemic.

The clinical analysis of the type of disease present in the 428 cases of true diphtheria discharged and died is given hereunder :—

	<i>Discharged</i>	<i>Died</i>
Apparent "carriers" ... ..	24	—
Faucial ... ..	307	11
Faucial and Nasal ... ..	61	1
Faucial and Laryngeal ... ..	3	—
Laryngeal ... ..	9	2
Nasal ... ..	5	—
Vulval ... ..	1	—
Faucial, Nasal and Vulval ... ..	1	1
Conjunctival ... ..	1	—
Faucial, Nasal and Laryngeal ... ..	—	1
	<hr/> 412 <hr/>	<hr/> 16 <hr/>

In 24 of the faucial cases no membrane was present on admission and these were apparently convalescent "carriers".

The type of the disease admitted to hospital throughout the year 1938 was, if anything, more virulent and toxic than in the previous two years. The rapid appearance of oedema of the fauces and of the neck glands accompanied by extensive membrane in the fauces was the rule and comparatively large doses of anti-toxin were administered in every case. In 4 cases of laryngeal obstruction with diphtheria membrane, tracheotomy was performed and 1 of the cases died subsequent to operation, as a result of membrane formation in the trachea.

A few of the fatal cases admitted to hospital were refractory to anti-toxin treatment and it was noted that the membrane visible on the tonsils went on spreading over the fauces up to 48 hours after the administration of anti-toxin, while the swelling of the neck glands increased over the same period. In these cases it is almost the rule for foetor to be an early symptom and definite post-nasal obstruction to be a prominent feature.

The complications observed were as follows :—

					Number	In 428 Incidence
Albuminuria and Nephritis	...	...	...	...	75	17%
Paralysis—						
Palate and Pharynx	...	...	...	...	40	13%
Palate and Legs	...	...	...	...	6	
Palate and Eyes	...	...	...	...	10	
Cardiac Irregularities	...	...	...	...	44	10%
Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	6	1%

In 5 of the fatal cases death occurred coincidentally with the onset of widespread paralysis, and in 3 of the fatal cases the disease was of the haemorrhagic variety.

### ERYSIPELAS.

7 cases of erysipelas of the idiopathic type were admitted and all recovered with the use of Prontosil and serum.

### MENINGITIS.

5 cases of meningitis were admitted. 3 of these proved to be cerebro-spinal fever, 1 tubercular meningitis and 1 meningismus. The cases of cerebro-spinal fever were of the infantile type and 1 died. Following the use of the newly introduced synthetic drug, M. & B. 693, the other 2 cases of cerebro-spinal fever made rapid and uncomplicated recoveries. The case of tubercular meningitis died and the case of meningismus proved to be an apical pneumonia, which recovered.

### MEASLES.

22 cases of measles were admitted during the epidemic of the spring, and all these were children under 5, with complications. These were as follows :—

Broncho-pneumonia	13
Otitis Media	5
Capillary Bronchitis	3
Herpes	1

There were 5 deaths.

### ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

One case of this disease was admitted, with paralysis of both legs, that affecting the left leg being complete. Upon the conclusion of the hospital treatment, the case was referred to the Royal Victoria Infirmary Orthopaedic Department for subsequent orthopaedic treatment.



## **DYSENTERY.**

2 cases of dysentery were admitted. Both were discharged, well.

## **PNEUMONIA.**

17 cases of pneumonia were admitted and there were 5 subsequent deaths, 3 from lobar pneumonia, 1 from convulsions and 1 from broncho-pneumonia.

By the end of the year the drug, M. & B. 693 was available for use and in the cases in which it was tried the results were up to expectation.

## **WHOOPING COUGH.**

5 cases of the disease were admitted and there was 1 death. All of these were cases of whooping cough and broncho-pneumonia in young children.

## **MASTOIDITIS.**

A case of meningitis with mastoiditis, supervening on scarlet fever in a case treated at home, was admitted. The case was inoperable and the outlook apparently hopeless. Almost as a despairing measure, Prontosil Rubrum was given intra-muscularly in huge doses, over a period of three days, with the result that the ear ceased to discharge, the mastoiditis subsided and the symptoms of meningitis disappeared. The infection of the meninges had been proven by the presence of streptococci in the fluid and at the end of a week the fluid was absolutely clear. This child made a perfect recovery and as a sequel was left with a convergent squint of one eye, which supervened on a paralytic squint of the opposite eye due to meningeal irritation.

## **ILLNESSES OF NURSING STAFF.**

7 members of the nursing staff were admitted to the wards with tonsillitis during the year.

## **CONDITION OF PATIENTS ADMITTED.**

Certain findings, not relating to infectious disease, were ascertained during the year. In 276 of the cases admitted the hair was infested with nits or was actually verminous. Roughly 15% of the patients admitted were considered to be of sub-normal nutrition.

## **STAFF OF THE HOSPITAL.**

The attempt to re-organise the staff of the hospital, along the lines ultimately necessary after extension was continued, was that at the end of the year the nursing staff consisted of—matron, 3 ward sisters, 1 night sister, 4 assistant nurses and 15 probationer nurses. The domestic staff consisted of 1 cook, 10 maids, 1 laundress and 2 laundrymaids, along with a porter and assistant porter.

The probationer nurses, who have been engaged, are all intending to train as fever nurses and to that end are studying for the pre-registration examination for entrance to the nursing profession.

## **WARD ACCOMMODATION.**

The accommodation available at the beginning of the year, as given in last year's report, was reduced at the end of the year to two ward blocks, as one ward block had been handed over to the builder for re-construction, and the temporary corrugated iron block was in use for housing the nursing staff. On the other hand the two cubicle wards had been erected but were awaiting the interior decoration.

When the work of reconstructing the hospital is complete the accommodation of the hospital will range from 110-130 beds without any overcrowding.

## **DISINFECTIONS.**

817 houses were disinfected after removal or isolation of infectious disease and 77 after death or removal to hospital of phthisis cases. The steam disinfector at the hospital was used to disinfect 475 charges of infected clothing and bedding from private houses and the hospital wards, and 52 charges comprising the laundry from Whinney House Sanatorium. The latter is subsequently laundered by a private firm.

**COST OF THE HOSPITAL, 1938.**

In 1938, the total expenditure on the hospital was £8,023. From this figure, the cost per patient per day can be worked out at 7/3d. and the cost per bed per annum, on a basis of 82 beds, is £97 16s. 0d.

These figures are somewhat higher than the figures for last year, but, to a large extent, this is accounted for by the high cost of the quantities of diphtheria anti-toxin required to be used in connection with the epidemic, to the necessity of having some of the hospital laundry carried out privately, and also due to the engagement of private trained nurses.

JAMES GRANT, M.D., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Superintendent.*



# WHINNEY HOUSE TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL.

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1938.

This hospital was opened in June, 1926, for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in an intermediate stage of the disease, the isolation of infectious cases and observation of doubtful cases.

### GENERAL STATISTICS.

**Table of Admissions, Discharges and Deaths.**

		In Sana- torium, 1/1/38	Ad- missions	Dis- charges	Deaths	In Sana- torium, 31/12/38
TB+	M	18	61	50	6	25
	F.	17	37	31	4	19
	Ch.	1	4	3	—	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis						
TB—	M.	5	8	10	—	1
	F.	3	12	13	2	—
	Ch	—	—	—	—	—
Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis	M.	—	1	1	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—
	Ch.	—	1	1	—	—
Observation Cases	M.	—	2	2	—	—
	F.	—	5	5	—	—
	Ch.	—	2	1	—	1
Totals	M.	23	71	62	6	26
	F.	20	54	49	6	19
	Ch.	1	7	5	—	3
Totals	..	44	132	116	12	48

#### (a) Beds available.

The beds available for the reception of patients are 27 for males and 21 for females.

**(b) Patient Days in 1938.**

Males .....	9349
Females .....	7105
Children .....	594
<hr/>	
Total .....	17048
<hr/>	

The number of days in hospital of bed patients (*i.e.*, patients having at least two meals in bed) was 10,324.

**(c) Average Duration of Stay in Hospital.**

(1) Excluding patients in residence under 28 days :—

106 patients stayed 16,523 days.—

Average 155·8 days.

(2) Including patients in residence under 28 days :—

(22 other patients stayed 525 days only)—

Average of 133·1 days.

**(d) Average Number of Beds occupied during the Year.**

46·71	Males	25·62
	Females .....	19·46
	Children ..	1·62

The lowest number occupied at any time was 43.  
(January 5th, 1938 and 11th and 12th September, 1938).

**Comparative Number of Admissions and Patient Days,  
1930-1938.**

Patients Admitted		Patient Days			
		Males	Females	Children	Total
1930	143	9732	4619	683	15034
1931	154	9068	5012	314	14394
1932	134	9222	5876	139	15237
1933	163	9459	6019	135	15613
1934	143	9424	5902	412	15738
1935	122	9694	5700	331	15725
1936	108	9678	5702	313	15693
1937	140	8602	7047	657	16306
1938	130	9349	7105	594	17048

## HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

The hospital is equipped with an X-ray apparatus, and all modern methods of treatment are undertaken, with the exception of major surgical operations. These major operations, when deemed necessary, are performed at the Newcastle General Hospital.

The following is a short resume of some of the work done at the hospital during 1938 :—

### (a) Pneumothorax Treatment.

During the year 27 new cases (12 male, 13 female and 2 children) were induced at the hospital and 3 male cases were induced at Barrasford Sanatorium, continuing their treatment at the hospital. These, together with 22 old cases, were given 589 refills.

This is an increase of 170 refills compared with 1937, and is illustrative of the fact that more and more reliance is being placed in this form of treatment, which appears to be fully fortified by the result obtained.

	Males	Females	Children	Total
Cases under treatment on				
1st January, 1938 . . . .	10	12	—	22
Cases induced at the Hospital	13	13	2	27
Cases induced at Sanatorium	3	—	—	3
Cases terminated during the				
year . . . . .	6	5	—	11
Cases under treatment				
31st December, 1938 ..	19	20	2	41

The condition of these 41 patients at the end of the year was as follows :—

	Males	Females	Children	Total
Quiescent . . . . .	10	9	1	20
Improved . . . . .	5	8	1	14
No material improvement ..	4	3	—	7
				41



(Quiescent means no sign of activity, a negative sputum, and a normal blood sedimentation rate).

The reason for terminating treatment in 11 cases was as follows:—

	Males.	Females
Inadequate collapse . . . . .	3	2
Recovered from disease ..	—	1
Complication . . . . .	—	2
Removed . . . . .	1	—
Died (Pyo pneumothorax) ..	1	—
Treatment ceased at own request . . . . .	1	—

#### (b) “Gold” Treatment.

27 patients were treated during the year by injection of gold salts, 7 of these having a second course. In all 21 complete courses of treatment were given involving a total of 268 injections.

As in 1937, the gold salts have continued to be given combined with 10 c.c. of calcium butyrate, as by this method considerably lower sequelae have developed than by the old method of dissolving the salt in sterile water.

Crisalbane is now being used to the exclusion of Sanocrysin, as this is a British product and gives equally good results.

The conditions of the patients at the end of the year were as follows:—

Improved . . . . .	15
No material improvement . . . . .	9
Worse . . . . .	3

Complications encountered were rash in 4 cases, albuminuria in 3 cases and diarrhoea in 2 cases.

#### (c) Surgical Treatment.

Patients requiring Surgical treatment continue to be sent to the Newcastle General Hospital under Mr. George A. Mason, F.R.C.S.

The following cases were dealt with by him during the year :—

		Sex	Age	Operation	Condition at end of year
1	M.T.	F.	45	Thoracolysis (for apical cavity)	Improved. Cavity closed.
2	A. O'R	F.	23	Phrenic Crush	Died
3	H.W.	M.	24	Phrenic Crush	Improved
4	M.C.	F.	13	Bronchoscopy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis)
5	R.S.	M.	12	Lobectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis) now well.
6	J.H.B.	M.	16	Lobectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis) now well.
7	G.W. McL.	M.	45	Thoracoplasty	Quiescent
8	F.L.	F.	30	Thoracolysis	Improved
9	I.M.	F.	17	Division of adhesions following pneumothorax	No material improvement
10	J.S.	F.	16	Lobectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis) now well.
11	A.J.	M.	28	Thoracoplasty	Improved
12	L.S.	F.	17	Lobectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis). Died from Pneumonia
13	B.W.	F.	34	Lobectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis). Improved.
14	E. Mc K.	F.	15	Division of adhesion following Pneumothorax	Complete collapse of lung. Progress satisfactory.
15	K.J.	F.	14	Lobectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis). well.
16	H.F.	F.	18	Thoracoplasty (for Pyopneumothorax)	Died.
17	R.S.	M.	25	Thoracoplasty	Quiescent.
18	D.P.	F.	38	Phrenicectomy	Quiescent.
19	A.R.	F.	47	Phrenic Crush	No material improvement.
20	A.R.	M.	42	Thoracoplasty	Improved.
21	R.T.	F.	27	Pneumoectomy	Non-tuberculous (Bronchiectasis). Died.
22	J.G.T.	M.	9	Division of adhesion. following pneumothorax	Good collapse. Disease not arrested.
23	J.P.	M.	25	Drainage for Pyopneumothorax.	Died.
24	B.P.	M.	30	Drainage of lung abscess	Non-tuberculous. Died.

It will be noted that nine of the twenty-four patients operated upon were for conditions other than tuberculosis. These were dealt with through the Tuberculosis Department because they had originally been sent to the Dispensary for opinion. This arrangement seems to be reasonable, although part at least of the cost of treatment and maintenance could possibly be borne by the Public Assistance Committee, or, in the case of children, by the Education Committee.

It must also be kept in mind when assessing the results of operative treatment, that in many cases such treatment is done as a last resort in patients steadily going down-hill under more conservative methods of treatment, and who would certainly have died if nothing had been done to try and arrest the progress of their disease. Taking everything together, therefore, the results during the year have been quite satisfactory.

The cost during 1938 was :—

Surgeon's fees . . . . .	£92 . 8 . 0
Maintenance costs . . . . .	£427 . 12 . 10

In September an inspector from the General Nursing Council inspected the hospital with a view to its inclusion, with Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital, as a training school for nurses. Provisional approval for two years was granted on condition that :

- (a) A modern steam sputum steriliser was installed.
- (b) Proper sluices provided.
- (c) A trained nurse for night duty was appointed.

These several items were approved by the Council in October and their extra cost will be included in the estimates for 1939.

## **X-RAY DEPARTMENT.**

The following X-ray examinations were made :—

### **(a) Dispensary Patients.**

A clinic is held once a week at the hospital, when dispensary patients attend for X-ray examinations. During 1938, 400 films were taken and 706 screen examinations were made on these patients.

### **(b) Hospital Patients.**

145 films of hospital cases were taken and 230 screen examinations were performed.

## **STAFF OF HOSPITAL.**

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is the Resident Medical Officer. There is thus a complete liaison between the hospital and Tuberculosis Dispensary system. In this way cases on discharge from hospital are kept under continued observation, and in the case of patients receiving pneumothorax treatment, their treatment is carried on at this hospital as out-patients.

The staff of the hospital consists of :—

- Matron, S.R.N., C.M.B.
- Sister, S.R.N.
- 2 Assistant Nurses (Uncertificated)
- 5 Probationers



The domestic staff consists of 1 cook, 2 housemaids, 1 dining room maid, 2 wardmaids, 1 kitchen maid, and 3 morning workers, 1 Porter, Gardener and Assistant Gardener.

### **COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1938.**

Actual Expenditure, 1938	..	£5,957
Cost per bed (per annum)	..	£127 (£2·8·10 per week.
Cost per patient per day	.....	6/11d.

S. D. ROWLANDS, M.D., D.P.H., B.Hy.,

*Clinical Tuberculosis Officer and  
Resident Medical Officer.*

**HIGH TEAMS INSTITUTION—HOSPITAL WARDS.**  
**GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 1938.**

**Table of Admissions, Discharges and Deaths.**

Classification	In Hos- pital 1/1/38.	Admis- sions	Dis- charges	Deaths	In Hos- pital 31/12/38
Acute Infectious Disease . . . . .	5	5	8	2	—
Influenza . . . . .	2	1	1	—	2
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary . . . . .	25	69	32	37	25
Non-pulmonary . . . . .	5	10	9	2	4
Malignant Disease . . . . .	5	51	16	39	1
Acute Rheumatism . . . . .	1	23	20	—	4
Non-Articular—Rheumatism....	5	1	1	—	5
Chronic Arthritis . . . . .	9	6	9	—	6
Venereal Disease . . . . .	—	4	2	2	—
Puerperal Sepsis . . . . .	—	1	1	—	—
Other conditions associated with pregnancy & childbirth	10	66	35	1	40
Mental Disease—					
(a) Senile Dementia . . . . .	35	45	14	31	35
(b) Other . . . . .	12	61	60	1	12
Senile Decay . . . . .	12	64	23	46	7
Injuries and Accidents.....	13	45	33	13	12
Other Nervous Diseases . . . . .	1	60	49	4	8
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	16	81	69	18	10
Other Circulatory Diseases . . . .	6	173	91	88	—
Other Digestive Diseases . . . . .	4	29	21	2	10
Other Genito Urinary Diseases	5	36	20	14	7
Other Skin Diseases . . . . .	12	71	73	—	10
Other Diseases . . . . .	13	113	116	3	7
Maternity Wards—Mothers ..	5	32	31	—	6
Babies . . . . .	1	26	22	4	1
	202	1073	756	307	218

L. L. WESTROPE, M.D.,  
*Medical Officer.*





# APPENDIX.

## TABLE I.

### ANALYSIS OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO CAUSES, AGES, SEX, AND WARDS, DURING THE YEAR 1938.

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO CAUSES, &c.																									
	Total.	Males.	Females.	0—1 Vrs.	1—2 Vrs.	2—5 Vrs.	5—15 Vrs.	15—25 Vrs.	25—45 Vrs.	45—65 Vrs.	65—75 Vrs.	Over 75 Vrs.	North	North-East	North-West	Central	East-Central	South-Central	West-Central	East	South	West	Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the Borough.	Transferable Deaths.	
																								Inward	Outward
Certified .....	1412759	653	131	27	20	42	60	151	380	319	282	98	107	182	150	139	115	116	200	144	161	—	230	55	
Uncertified .....	58	29	29	2	—	—	1	3	23	21	8	9	1	9	8	4	5	7	3	4	8	—	3	4	
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles .....	19	12	7	6	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	6	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough .....	11	8	3	6	4	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	2	—	—	2	
Diphtheria .....	15	6	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	1	
Influenza .....	13	9	4	1	—	—	2	1	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	115	64	51	—	1	5	26	50	31	2	—	—	13	12	15	10	6	5	29	3	10	—	—	—	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	20	12	8	2	—	5	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	7	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Syphilis .....	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
General Paralysis of Insane .....	198	110	88	—	—	—	1	16	96	55	1	30	10	15	22	24	19	14	22	23	28	21	—	28	
Cancer .....	9	1	8	—	—	—	—	4	31	38	4	1	5	3	3	2	11	10	7	15	14	—	4	—	
Diabetes .....	106	42	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	15	31	22	23	23	26	35	26	34	—	31	
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ....	258	126	132	—	—	3	3	17	85	100	50	—	23	15	31	22	23	23	26	35	26	34	—	31	
Heart Disease .....	3	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Aneurysm .....	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	11	11	11	16	7	17	13	18	12	—	17		
Other Circulatory Diseases .....	130	65	65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	2	2	7	5	8	2	2	2	5	4	—	6	
Bronchitis .....	40	25	15	8	—	3	2	3	6	4	16	2	6	7	13	5	4	2	2	3	1	4	—	9	
Broncho-Pneumonia .....	47	27	20	21	5	4	2	6	1	6	2	6	6	3	6	8	2	2	2	5	6	6	—	8	
Pneumonia .....	46	30	16	—	—	4	2	11	14	8	3	3	6	3	6	8	2	2	2	5	6	6	—	1	
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	11	9	2	—	—	—	—	4	4	2	1	—	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	—	1	
Peptic Ulcer .....	10	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	3	2	3	—	1	2	1	—	6	
Diarrhoea, &c. ....	16	10	6	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Appendicitis .....	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	
Cirrhosis of Liver .....	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Other Diseases of Liver .....	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
Other Digestive Diseases .....	21	10	11	—	—	—	—	4	8	6	2	2	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	2	2	—	12	
Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	35	11	24	1	1	2	1	5	15	7	3	—	—	4	3	2	4	5	4	4	6	3	—	16	
Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Other Puerperal Causes .....	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Congenital Debility, Malformation and Premature Birth .....	66	40	26	66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	10	3	10	3	8	9	4	—	—	18	
Senility .....	96	53	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79	9	9	9	9	9	8	3	17	13	10	—	9	
Suicide .....	10	8	2	—	—	—	—	2	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Other Deaths from Violence .....	43	32	11	1	2	1	4	5	10	10	5	—	2	2	4	5	4	4	7	4	7	4	—	3	
Other Defined Diseases .....	78	44	34	7	—	4	6	8	10	19	14	10	3	4	14	6	6	4	9	10	10	12	—	24	
Causes Ill-defined or unknown .....	19	13	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	2	3	2	2	2	—	4	—	29	
	1470788	682	133	27	20	42	61	154	403	340	290	107	108	191	158	143	120	123	203	148	169	366	233	59	

## APPENDIX.

TABLE II.

NETT NUMBER OF DEATHS, arranged according to Ages and Wards, during the Year 1938.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Years 0—1	Years 1—2	Years 2—5	Years 5—15	Years 15—25	Years 25—45	Years 45—65	Years 65—75	Years 75 up	North Ward	North East Ward.	North West Ward.	Central Ward.	East Central Ward.	South Central Ward.	West Central Ward.	East Ward.	South Ward.	West Ward.	Inward.	Outward.	TRANS-FERABLE DEATHS
First Quarter.....	447	233	214	48	12	5	15	15	43	119	91	99	30	37	56	55	45	34	29	59	44	58	64	14	
Second Quarter .....	351	203	148	27	9	6	6	13	37	97	90	66	35	25	45	43	31	26	28	53	31	34	49	17	
Third Quarter .....	307	157	150	22	6	8	11	16	34	81	68	61	17	26	40	23	31	32	31	38	32	37	53	18	
Fourth Quarter .....	365	195	170	36	—	1	10	17	40	106	91	64	25	20	50	37	36	28	35	53	41	40	67	10	
Totals .....	1470	788	682	133	27	20	42	61	154	403	340	290	107	108	191	158	143	120	123	203	148	169	233	59	
Rate per 1,000 of Population .....	12.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.4	13.9	14.0	14.5	12.7	11.0	11.4	12.3	11.4	12.0	—	—	—

## APPENDIX.

TABLE III.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

[illegible]



